

Thatcher warns Labour leader over MI5 secrets case

Kinnock could be left out of spy briefings

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

The Prime Minister yesterday accused Mr Neil Kinnock of abandoning the bipartisan approach to security because of his conduct during the Australian spy book hearing and threatened to exclude him from the confidential security briefings traditionally granted to party leaders.

Mrs Thatcher's warning was delivered in the Commons as the Government prepared to give notice in Sydney early today that it will appeal against the order of the judge in the New South Wales Supreme Court that it should hand over secret documents to the defence counsel.

Although Mr Justice Powell ruled yesterday that the highly secret documents could be edited before being shown to Mr Peter Wright's defence lawyers, ministers were preparing to challenge his ruling in the Australian Court of Appeal and made clear that they were determined to fight the case to the end, if necessary, to the Australian High Court, the final court of appeal.

mouthpiece?" The Prime Minister replied: "Yes, I agree wholeheartedly."

It was said later on Mrs Thatcher's behalf that she had followed the bipartisan approach to security in opposition and in government, and that she intended and hoped to be able to follow it in future. But, Whitehall sources said, she regarded it as a matter for Mr Kinnock as to whether he wanted to follow it in future. The clear implication was that unless Mr Kinnock returned to the bipartisan approach, he would be left out of future briefings, given on privy councillor terms to the party leaders.

It is understood that Mr Kinnock has had no private briefings on the Wright case. Amid continuing Conservative calls for Mr Kinnock to return home to face the Commons, Mr Roy Hattersley, Labour's deputy leader, pressed Mrs Thatcher on why she had attempted to suppress the Wright book while allowing and indeed encouraging publication of the Chapman Pincher spy book, *Their Trade Is Treachery*, in 1981. It was her decision not to act against Mr Pincher which had produced "the present humiliation and resulted in the Attorney-General's authority being usurped by the Prime Minister to manipulate the law for party political reasons."

He accused the Prime Minister of treating the law as if it were her own property. "Hence her willingness to allow Mr Wright to sell his secrets to Chapman Pincher."

Continued on page 20, col 5

Book case leaks upset Whitehall

By Philip Webster

Concern is being voiced at the highest levels in the British Government about apparent leaks from the confidential hearings in the Wright case in Australia.

At the same time there is anxiety that a person closely involved in the production of Mr Wright's book about his work for MI5 has been allowed to sit in on the hearing as a member of the team of the defence lawyer Mr Malcolm Turnbull.

It is not being suggested that the person is responsible for the alleged leaks, which in any case have not been regarded as serious.

Lawyers representing the British Government protested about the man's presence in the defence team in the private hearings, but they were turned down by the judge, Mr Justice Powell.

Sir Robert Armstrong, the Cabinet Secretary, a leading witness in the Sydney case, is believed to have made his concern about the man known to the Cabinet Office in London.

Bid fails to ban story in Ireland

By Robin Young

The Government yesterday lost its court attempt to ban the publication in the Irish Republic of a book written by a former MI5 employee. The case turned on similar questions to those raised in the efforts in Australia to ban the publication of a far more controversial book written by the former secret service agent, Mr Peter Wright.

Miss Justice Mella Carroll ruled in the Dublin High Court that Brandon Press of Dingle, Co. Kerry, had a constitutional right to publish and distribute *One Girl's War*, a memoir written by Miss Joan Miller who died in Malta in 1984.

Sir Michael Havers, the Attorney General, had been granted a temporary injunction stopping publication of the book last week, and was seeking to have it confirmed. In a sworn affidavit, his legal secretary, Mr Michael Lawrence Sanders, said that publication would cause irreparable damage to the British secret service.

Continued on page 20, col 4

MI5 attack on Wright

The head of MI5, Sir Antony Duff, delivered a stinging rebuke against Mr Peter Wright, the former MI5 officer, earlier this year (Our Whitehall Correspondent writes).

Sir Antony criticized Mr Wright's plan to publish a book about Soviet penetration of the security service and allegations about past MI5 operations at a gathering of

about 50 MI5 pensioners invited by Sir Antony to a reunion in London.

According to sources yesterday, a number of those present were upset by the attack on Mr Wright, who was well known to most of them. A similar criticism of Mr Wright and a warning against any further MI5 officers writing memoirs will be made this week at another reunion.



Mr Peter Wright, the former MI5 agent whose book the British Government is seeking to ban, arriving at the Supreme Court in Sydney for yesterday's hearing.

Guinness inquiry net widening

By Lawrence Lever

The echoes of the government investigation into the Guinness share price rose about 25 per cent in the closing stages of the bid which therefore increased its value. Guinness ultimately secured control of Distillers, with a £2.7 billion bid, defeating a rival bid from Argyll.

The contest between Guinness and Argyll for control of Distillers was one of the most bitter ever fought. It was characterized by allegations of "dirty tricks" and the use of "bugging devices."

A Guinness spokesman said last night: "We are still very much in the dark - the DTI won't tell us anything."

Summons served on Collier

By Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent

A summons was served yesterday on Mr Geoffrey Collier, the Department of Trade and Industry accused, Mr Collier was forced to resign as a director of Morgan Grenfell last month, because of alleged offences connected with share dealings.

Mr Collier has for more than two weeks been the subject of the first full-scale investigation ever launched by the DTI into insider dealing.

The summons relates to Mr Collier's dealings in shares of AE, the engineering company, and appears to stem from an interim report submitted by the two DTI inspectors.

Four employees of Phillips & Drew, the stockbroker, have been sacked for a breach of staff dealing rules. It is understood that they booked a traded options bargain to their own account when it should have been recorded as a trade by P&D.

The company emphasized that there was no question of insider trading involved with the sacking. The profit on the deal amounted to about £5,000.

Ridley forced to think again on shire rates

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for the Environment, is set to bow to the demands of Conservative MPs for a rethink of his proposals for allocating the rate support grant which would force large increases in the shire counties.

Mr Ridley, who faces the threat of a big backbench revolt, is to announce today a further round of consultations, which will mean that this year's final rate support grant settlement will be delayed until the new year.

Mr Ridley and Mr Rhodes Boyson, Minister for Local Government, have been receiving numerous deputations from MPs and local authority leaders in the southern shires complaining that they would be hit unfairly by Mr Ridley's plans.

'Grants to students inadequate'

The Government admitted for the first time yesterday that student grants were no longer adequate to meet basic expenditure needs.

The admission was made in written evidence by the Department of Education to the education select committee, which is inquiring into the level of student support.

This is the first time that there has been an official admission that the student grant is inadequate.

However, the admission was not made with the knowledge or approval of ministers.

That the grant is now inadequate is a charge that has been repeatedly made both by university vice-chancellors and the National Union of Students.

British Gas share sale closes today

By Richard Lander

The £5.6 billion British Gas privatization closes today with at least three million investors applying for a slice of the largest share sale on the London Stock Exchange.

The number of applicants could swell above the 5 million mark as a final tide of forms floods in by post and hand before the 10 am deadline. The organizers of the issue will then start calculating the number of shares applied for and weeding out illegal multiple applicants.

Dealings in the shares will start on Monday afternoon, with an expected premium of at least 10p over the initial 50p offer price.

Thatcher's warning on 'jet set' Aids

By Nicholas Wood, Political Reporter

Loose-living among international bureaucrats and jet-setting businessmen threatens to accelerate the spread of the disease Aids, the Prime Minister will warn at this weekend's EEC summit in London.

She will urge her fellow heads of government to follow Britain's lead in mounting a concerted Community-wide campaign to warn the population and homosexuals of the threat posed by the killer virus.

And, given the established link between sexual promiscuity and the transmission of the disease, she wants them to concentrate their efforts on getting the message across to

Reagan names CIA man for security post

From Michael Binyon, Washington

President Reagan yesterday named Mr Frank Carlucci, a former deputy director of the Central Intelligence Agency and Ambassador to Portugal, as his new National Security Adviser. He also agreed to the appointment of an independent investigator to look at the Iran arms scandal.

In a brief address on national television, Mr Reagan said the independent investigator, together with the Justice Department investigation, would give America a dual system for assuring a thorough review of all aspects of the affair.

"If illegal acts had been undertaken, those who did so will be brought to justice. If actions in implementing my policy were taken without my authorization, knowledge or concurrence, this will be exposed and appropriate corrective steps will be implemented."

Mr Reagan said he fully recognized the interest of Congress in the affair, and that it would want to hold its own inquiry. His Administration, he said, would co-operate fully with that inquiry.

The President said he had already taken the unprecedented step of allowing two former national security advisers to testify, but he was urging Congress to consider consolidating its inquiries to a single special committee - as proposed by Senator Robert Dole and backed by most Republicans as a way of stopping the proliferation of hearings.

If the new inquiry was given a chance to work, he said, all

the facts over Iran and the transfer of funds to the Contras would shortly be made public. Looking strained, and with his voice almost breaking, he declared: "Then the American people, you will be the final arbiters of this controversy. You will have all the facts and will be able to judge for yourselves."

The successor to Admiral John Poindexter is a man known for his toughness, experience and efficiency. As Ambassador to Portugal in 1974, Mr Carlucci was credited with helping prevent a communist takeover at a time when Dr Henry Kissinger, the then Secretary of State, had admitted defeat and was opposing further aid to the Socialist Government.

The 56-year-old Korean war veteran was stabbed in the Congo in 1960 when he rescued a carload of Americans from a mob. He worked in President Nixon's White House, and in 1978 President Carter made him deputy director of the CIA.



Mr Carlucci: Experienced, tough and efficient.

Leyland Trucks in talks with Dutch

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

DAF Truck of The Netherlands is in talks aimed at closer collaboration, possibly even a merger, with Leyland Trucks, the Rover Group's loss-making commercial vehicles manufacturer.

A bid for the trucks operation is also being considered by Paccar, the north American heavy trucks manufacturer which in 1980 bought up Forden, the British commercial vehicles maker based at Sandbach, Cheshire.

The talks with DAF are the most advanced after an agreement in September with the Dutch manufacturer on selling Leyland trucks and vans in Europe.

The new moves on the Rover Group's troubled subsidiary, on which earlier merger talks with General Motors' Bedford subsidiary broke down, were disclosed yesterday in the House of Commons by Mr Paul

Channon, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry.

Mr Channon added that he expected the Rover Group in its forthcoming corporate plan for 1987 to set out "a positive course" for Austin Rover as a significant car producer and exporter.

There was immediate anger at the prospect of rationalization and job losses at Leyland trucks after Mr Channon said that restructuring at the division could be expected whatever the outcome of the talks.

He added, however, during exchanges in the Commons, that the outcome "may well be merger or takeover."

Mr Channon said: "Our objective is to achieve a secure future for the production of Leyland trucks, but it must be recognized that any option for the company - whether re-

Continued on page 20, col 1

Madmen who take to water

By Sue Scott

These Australian abattores grow to a terrible size, and the one that plagued John Biddlecombe's attempt to race around the world in a yacht was the monster of them all. After months of mishaps, maydays, hospitalization and prangs, the Aussie seafarer has finally admitted defeat and withdrawn from the BOF Round the World race. His catalogue of disasters would leave any mariner feeling as faint.

It began on the qualifying leg, this epic of calamity, when barely out of Sydney harbor Biddlecombe's former stuntman, smashed his wooden yacht, *Arcturion*, into a Tongan reef and left it to rot. He was rescued by a quivering deck crew.

Helpful Tongan villagers rescued anything salvageable, like radios, electrical gear and pyjamas, but Biddlecombe took them home never to be seen again. The race started in Sydney, Biddlecombe had to start from scratch, arranging insurance, paying for a flight to France to buy a replacement *Arcturion*, and so on. It was a time when he would rather be a rather than a rather.

Meanwhile, his former advisers were in Newport, Rhode Island, for the start of the race. It was only when the 27,000 mile round trip had been made that the crew checked that the boat was still there.

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Tomorrow Master of disaster...



...that's what he calls himself - and he's just beaten Cram, Thompson and Liner to become Britain's Sportsman of the Year. A look at the life of Lloyd Honeyghan, world welterweight champion

Portfolio

The £4,000 daily prize in yesterday's Portfolio Golf competition was shared by two winners. Details, page 3. There is a further £4,000 to be won today. Portfolio list page 27; how to play, information service, page 20.

BUSINESS

£2 billion bid

Unilever, the Anglo-Dutch household goods conglomerate, has made a \$3.1 billion (£2.1 billion) agreed bid for Chesebrough-Pond's group to strengthen its American operations. Page 21

BOC lift-off

BOC, the industrial gases and healthcare group, reported pretax profits of £64.1 million and forecast growth of 20 per cent. Page 21

SPORT

Waugh-path

England lead Australia - for whom Waugh took five wickets for 69 yesterday - by 390 runs with one day left in the second Test match at Perth. Page 44

FOCUS

New town sale

An important aspect of the Government's privatization policy, away from the glare of publicity, is the "sale" of its new towns, covered in a Special Report Pages 28 to 30

Table with 2 columns: Home News, Overseas, Sports, Births, marriages, Business, Court, Crosswords, Diary, Law Report, Leaders, Letters, Parliament, Property, Sale Rooms, Science, Sport, TV & Radio, Weather. Includes page numbers for each section.



NEWS SUMMARY

The BMA backs drink-drive ban

The British Medical Association yesterday backed the Government's call to motorists not to drink during the Christmas and New Year festivities.

Threat to the QE2

The liner QE2 will not be allowed to sail again and will become a "rust bucket" unless she continues to carry a British crew, Mr Sam McCloskie, general secretary of the National Union of Seamen, told a meeting of 400 crew members in Southampton yesterday.

Cunard, the owner of the QE2, is currently balloting the ship's hotel and catering crew on whether they will accept severance payments as they are to be redeployed to other Cunard ships.

Print anger

Dismissed printworkers yesterday criticized the manner in which they were made redundant from the Communist Morning Star newspaper.

Thirty-nine printers have lost their jobs because the paper faces a severe cash crisis. The paper's production director, Mr Bill Bex, reportedly asked the doorman to distribute their notices.

Moscow bank plea

The Banking Insurance and Finance Union is due to claim unfair dismissal against the Moscow Narodny Bank, on behalf of a former employee of the bank, at the central industrial tribunal in London today.

The union claims that Mr Tony Palmer, a clerk, has worked satisfactorily at the bank for more than 10 years but was dismissed for his persistent union activities.

Anger at milk ruling

MPs opposed to Britain's membership of the EEC protested yesterday at a ruling by the European Court of Justice that the Milk Marketing Board had infringed Community rules on milk pricing.

The Board's offence was to operate a two tier pricing scheme for milk sold for processing into butter and skimmed milk powder, enabling manufacturers to obtain it more cheaply if the end product were destined for the home market, thus undermining the community's complex intervention price support system.

RAC ban Judge 'sexist'

A blanket ban on disabled drivers by the Royal Automobile Club has cost one of Britain's best known stage rally drivers his competition licence.

Mr Ken Ridley, aged 30, a Gateshead sub-postmaster who is a thalidomide victim, was this week named Ford Rally Man of the Month, but he will have to prove his fitness to an RAC medical committee to win back his licence.

Mrs Wendy Birch, aged 37, a teacher, called a judge "sexist" yesterday after he advised her to switch on the charm to avoid police reporting her for driving offences.

Judge Anthony Goodall, aged 70, a former Guardsman, made his remarks at Exeter Crown Court, where Mrs Birch, of Starcroft, Devon, won an appeal against convictions for speeding, driving with no insurance and failing to produce her driving licence.

Ex-prison chief jailed for charity cash thefts

A former assistant prison governor was jailed for three months yesterday after he pleaded guilty to six charges of theft from charities he helped before he resigned from his job last year.

Chichester Crown Court was told that Arnold Johnson, aged 39, former assistant governor of Ford Open Prison near Arundel, West Sussex, was a gambling addict.

He pocketed £50 belonging to Reach Out, a charity for mentally and physically handicapped children supported by prisoners at Ford.

He also kept £170 from the Littlehampton Victims Support Scheme which he had set up and been its first chairman. Mr David Tomlinson, for the prosecution, said Johnson had stolen

money from the sale of tickets for a charity show at Bognor Regis.

He also took £40 which should have been used to insure a prize car on offer at a "fun day" charity event.

Mr Anthony Higgins, for Johnson, said he was faced with debts and had let gambling become a problem.

He was now an unemployed labourer but had repaid all the stolen money. Since resigning last year after 17 years in the prison service, he had joined Gamblers Anonymous.

Mr Higgins said the prison term would be more difficult because of his previous job.

Johnson, of Elm Dale, Barnham, West Sussex, denied a further four similar charges and they were left on the file.

Hurd to block free TV for pensioners

By Sheila Guna Political Staff

The Government is expected to try to block an attempt to give pensioners free television licences.

Mr David Winnick, Labour MP for Walsall North, announced yesterday that he will bring in a Bill to remove the licence fee for pensioners, and households where the main breadwinner is of pensionable age.

He came top of the ballot for private members' Bills, so the proposals stand a good

chance of making progress in the Commons. But determined opposition from the Government will prevent the Bill reaching the statute book. The Home Office will not support the measure while a major review of the funding of television is underway following the Peacock Report.

There are also fears that it would create a new set of anomalies, although the present system of concessionary licences has not been considered a success. Mr Winnick's measure would mean 4.8 million

households would receive free licences from 1988, including 2.9 million pensioners living on their own.

The Labour Party's pledge goes a step further, giving all households which include a pensioner a free licence.

Mr Winnick calculates his Bill would cost £220 million a year. But the Home Office believes the figure will be more than £225 million, the equivalent of adding between 30 and 50 per cent on to the present £58 colour licence. He is backed by Mr Jack Jones, the pensioners' cam-

paigner, who said: "This should not be viewed as some sort of handout. Television is a window on the world for many old people. For many it is a companion and a friend".

Managing the scheme would be a bureaucratic nightmare, giving enormous scope for dishonesty. If the Bill went through, there would soon be campaigns for free licences for low-income and single parent families, he said.

Mr Ivan Lawrence, Conservative MP for Burton and also a committee member, said that Labour believed pensioners were best helped by giving blanket payments, whatever their resources, and the Conservatives gave it to those most in need.

Fowler gives pledge to stop attacks on staff

By Jill Sherman

A committee to tackle growing violence against health, social services and social security staff was set up by the Government yesterday.

The committee, to be chaired by Lady Trumpington, Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Health, will report on measures in health and local authorities for dealing with the attacks, which have claimed the lives of three social workers and one medical secretary in the past 18 months.

Speaking at a Department of Health and Social Security conference on violence against staff, Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, said the committee, with representatives from professional organizations and trade unions, would co-ordinate information across all three services, examine what had been done and what could be done.

"The information will form the basis of a new policy drive to tackle violence against social services staff," Mr Fowler indicated that the Government would be issuing new guidelines to cover all groups of caring staff.

He confirmed that the DHSS would consider the availability of physical measures, including erecting screens, issuing of personal alarms and two-way radios but stressed that it was important to weigh the balance between the use of security devices and the need to keep open human access to clients.

"We don't want to interfere with the work of the personal social services. We cannot provide a great range of services from behind locked doors. We cannot just retreat. But nor can we have a situation where more social

workers get injured or killed." Members of the public should also assume some responsibility, he said. "Those who help the public are entitled to help from the public. The community has a duty to protect those people who serve it."

A survey from the Health and Safety Executive, due to be published next year, found that out of 5,000 health workers questioned, one in 200 had suffered a major injury needing medical treatment following a violent attack during the last 12 months. One in 10 had needed first aid, and five out of every 100 health workers had been threatened with weapons, including knives, broken bottles, chairs and coffee tins.

But the questionnaire, sent to hospitals in five district health authorities, showed that one third of serious incidents were not officially recorded. Mr David Jones, general secretary of the British Association of Social Workers, stressed the need for greater training and management-led initiatives to provide counselling and support to those workers at risk.

Speakers also called for more attention to be paid to social security offices and accident and emergency departments where attacks were often initiated by clients frustrated by waiting.

Dr Ross Mitchell, consultant psychiatrist at the Young People's Psychiatric Service, Cambridge, said: "We need more positive steps to make these more homely: better lighting, more pictures and plants, reduced waiting times, access to eating facilities and telephones and toilets that are clean and work."



Woman Police Sergeant Carol Miller consoles WPCs Alison Thrush (centre) and Judy Kerslake at the funeral yesterday of WPC Deborah Leat, aged 20, killed in a car crash last week while pursuing a driver who refused to stop, in the Speedwell area of Bristol.

Industrial action hits the Maze jail

Disturbances broke out at Ulster's Maze prison yesterday as prison officers began what they describe as "major" industrial action over the suspension of a colleague for allegedly sleeping on duty.

During the afternoon the Northern Ireland Office denied a news agency report that there had been a riot in the prison.

A spokesman confirmed, however, that some inmates who were locked in their cells for most or all of the day, had broken a number of windows in two wings of one of the prison's H blocks.

The disturbances were in one wing occupied wholly by "loyalists" and in one mixed wing, he said. The situation at the Maze is likely to affect the expected return today from Amsterdam of two men who escaped in 1983, Brendan McFarlane and Gerard Kelly.

The authorities had been intending to return the two fugitives straight to the Maze once their extradition had been achieved but are unlikely to risk putting the two men back there while abnormal tension, and minimal security, prevail. McFarlane and Kelly will be flown aboard an RAF aircraft from Maastricht direct to Belfast Aldergrove airport and taken to the Crumlin Road prison in Belfast.

Many warders walked out or failed to report for duty following the suspension of one prison officer.

The RUC was put on standby and police will remain at the prison.

Steel spikes put in path of news lorry

By Michael McCarthy

Two sets of solid steel spikes, each four feet long, were placed at the weekend in the path of a 32-ton articulated lorry coming from the News International plant at Wapping, east London.

At the time, it was crossing a 40 ft high viaduct with another road beneath it and a block of flats to one side, Scotland Yard revealed yesterday.

The driver managed to avoid the spikes but had his vehicle hit them, said Commander George Ness, the consequences of the incident, on the Silvertown flyover in north Woolwich on Friday night, could have been "catastrophic".

Commander Ness displayed the spikes at the second police press conference in a fortnight specially called to draw attention to the spiralling level of viciousness in attacks on ve-

hicles connected with the Wapping dispute.

He said: "I am absolutely amazed that anyone should be so callous and reckless as to put these things in the path of such a vehicle in such a place. Soon someone is going to be killed".

The Silvertown incident, during which the driver's windscreen was smashed when he slowed down to avoid the spikes and ball bearings fired at his cab from a catapult, was only one of 10 major attacks on News International vehicles over the weekend listed by Commander Ness, operation head of the Yard's No 2 area, which covers east London.

Eight articulated lorries belonging to the haulage firm TNT, used to transport News International newspapers, were attacked over Saturday night and Sunday morning in location ranging from Bethnal Green to Rainham in Essex.

Then in the early hours of Monday a half brick was dropped on a News International van as it passed under Blackfriars Bridge in London, narrowly missing the driver.

Those attacks were in addition to the mass assault by 20 to 25 men on News International delivery vehicles at Ilford, east London, early on Monday morning, reported yesterday.

Commander Ness disclosed that there have now been more than 1,000 attacks on vehicles connected with News International since the start of the Wapping dispute, which began when 5,100 print workers were dismissed after going on strike.

The spikes displayed yesterday consisted of lengths of square steel tubing in to which specially turned razor-sharp steel spikes, two inches long, had been fitted.



Commander George Ness showing the steel spike sets. (Photograph: James Gray).

Hurd urged to reopen pub bomb blast case

Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, yesterday came under intense all-party pressure to reopen the case of the six men jailed for life for the 1974 bombing of a Birmingham public house in which 21 people were killed (Our Political Reporter writes).

A group of MPs said that there is now the "most serious possible doubt" about the validity of the convictions obtained in 1975.

Mr David Alton, the Liberal chief whip and MP for Mossley Hill, said the Home Secretary should make a statement about the case.

Sir John Farr, Conservative MP for Harborough, said he would be urging Mr Hurd to reopen the case. Mr Peter Archer, Labour's

frontbench spokesman on Northern Ireland, said: "There now seems to be a serious danger that the people convicted were not the people who planted the bomb."

Guilty verdicts in the trial were handed down almost entirely on the basis of the men's confessions and forensic evidence.

At a press conference yesterday, the MPs said there was persuasive new evidence to support the men's contention that their confessions were "beaten out of them".

They also said that the latest information substantiated tests carried out by Granada Television's World in Action programme discrediting prosecution evidence purporting to show traces of explosives on the men's hands.

Falklands deaths

Ministry of Defence denies cover up

By Peter Davenport, Defence Correspondent

Ministry of Defence officials denied yesterday that there had been any attempt to cover-up an incident, during the Falklands campaign, in which four soldiers were killed when men from their own unit mistook them for the enemy and opened fire.

The next of kin of the men were informed as soon as possible after the conflict was over, and details had been printed in a history of the campaign.

A Ministry of Defence official said yesterday: "Such incidents have always happened in the chaos and confusion of war and probably always will."

"However, the next of kin were informed as soon as possible after the conflict was over and the re-emergence of the incident now can only cause unnecessary hurt."

In military circles such events are known as "blue on blue" incidents.

In the Falklands campaign, in which a total of 255 Task Force personnel lost their lives, four such incidents, in which 10 servicemen were

killed, were acknowledged.

The shoot-out between two units of 45 Commando, Royal Marines, which is being highlighted, is a classic example of a "blue on blue", a term derived from military terminology in which all friendly forces are blue and all enemy forces red.

A Ministry of Defence spokesman said yesterday that the incident occurred on the night of June 9-10, 1982, in pitch darkness and driving rain on Mount Kent.

A fighting patrol of 45 Commando, having just "yomped" across the Falklands, mistook a mortar section of their colleagues for a detachment of Argentine troops.

In the brief but fierce exchange of fire that followed, four men were killed. They were the mortar platoon sergeant, Robert Learning, aged 32, Corporals Andrew Uren, aged 23 and Peter Flinton, aged 25, and Marine Keith Phillips, aged 19. Three others were wounded.

The next of kin of the men were informed of the details by the officer commanding the

unit, Lt Col Andrew Whitehead, soon after the end of the conflict.

In one of the other incidents, two members of the Army Air Corps and two men of the Royal Signals Regiment died when their Gazelle helicopter was hit by a Sea Dart missile, now believed to have been fired by HMS Cardiff, in the mistaken belief it was attacking an enemy helicopter.

Initially a metallurgical examination had ruled out a hit by a Sea Dart but after further investigations at the Royal Aircraft Establishment at Farnborough it was concluded that the Gazelle could have been brought down by a missile fired by the destroyer.

Since the end of the campaign, the procedures governing the difficult problem of the management of low-level air space in a battle, which may have led to the error, have been tightened up.

After pressure from the mother of one of the Army Air Corps men killed in the incident, a Board of Inquiry was set up to examine the details. It ended in November and a

report is now with the Ministry of Defence.

Relatives of those killed were informed this year, of the latest findings in advance of expected newspaper publicity about the helicopter having been hit by a British missile.

In another incident a soldier with the 2nd Battalion, the Parachute Regiment was killed by British artillery fire while attacking Argentine positions on the night of June 13-14. His relatives were not told of the details until late in 1983 because of a wish by his battalion to spare them further distress.

However when it became known that the incident was to be included in General John Frost's book 2 Para: Falklands, a decision was taken to inform them.

The final "blue on blue" led to the death of a soldier serving with the SAS. It is understood he was engaged on covert activities as part of the battle for the islands, but the Ministry of Defence will only say that he died as a result of an "unfortunate incident".

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- a) Where is Tombouctou?
- b) Where are the Maldive Islands?
- c) Where is the Tunguska?
- d) Where is Embu?
- 2) Names to Remember
- a) What is the capital of Honduras?
- b) What is the longest river in Asia?
- c) What is the capital of Mauritius?
- d) What is the highest mountain in Africa?

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Handwritten Arabic text at the bottom of the page.



# Aids virus carriers in Britain 'could total up to 100,000'

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

Up to 100,000 people in Britain may be carrying the Aids virus and a "substantial proportion" will develop the disease within the next few years, a specialist predicted yesterday.

By 1991 the number of new cases each month could reach 340, the equivalent of "a Jumbo jet load of passengers falling from the skies", Dr John Galloway, a consultant physician at the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford, said.

Dr Galloway, an adviser on Aids to the Oxford Regional Health Authority, also said that it was time researchers "came clean" about the percentage of carriers likely to develop the disease.

He challenged the Government-held estimate of about 30,000 carriers in Britain and its view that 30 per cent would develop illness. The estimates discussed privately by some United States specialists were that more than 90 per cent of carriers would develop Aids or related conditions.

Speaking at a Medical Journalists Association meeting in London, Dr Galloway said that he regretted making such grim forecasts "but we have to retain credibility in the eyes of our patients and if we tell them a low figure and they read a higher estimate elsewhere they will question our honesty".

The Department of Health said yesterday that 599 Aids cases have been recorded, including 296 deaths. There were 34 new cases and 18 deaths in November.

Dr Galloway predicted that there would not be a vaccine against Aids available for about 20 years, by which time many millions of people world-wide would be infected.

At another meeting in London, the Royal College of Nursing said that some Aids patients were refusing to enter some hospitals because of the way they or others had been treated.

Some individuals were "quite unnecessarily" put into isolation by hospitals which had over-reacted and had unfair attitudes towards the original population of patients at risk - male homosexuals and drug addicts.

The college has asked the authorities to change their attitudes and gave a warning that it may name the hospitals if they do not.

The college issued new nursing guidelines on Aids emphasizing that there can be no "opt-out clause" for caring for Aids patients.

Nurses must tend victims of the disease face disciplinary action or resign, Mr Richard Wells, its nursing adviser on oncology, said.

However, there had been an "overwhelming response" by nurses willing to care for Aids patients, and nurses could lead the way in changing people's attitudes towards the disease, Mr Trevor Clay, general secretary, said.

The guidelines say that "refusal to care may well result in disciplinary procedures being taken against the nurse for unprofessional conduct".

The real risks of infection, Mr Clay said.

Aids had shown itself to be the least infectious of illnesses in terms of being transmitted from patient to health care worker. Only three cases in the world were known, including one in Britain. None had developed the disease.

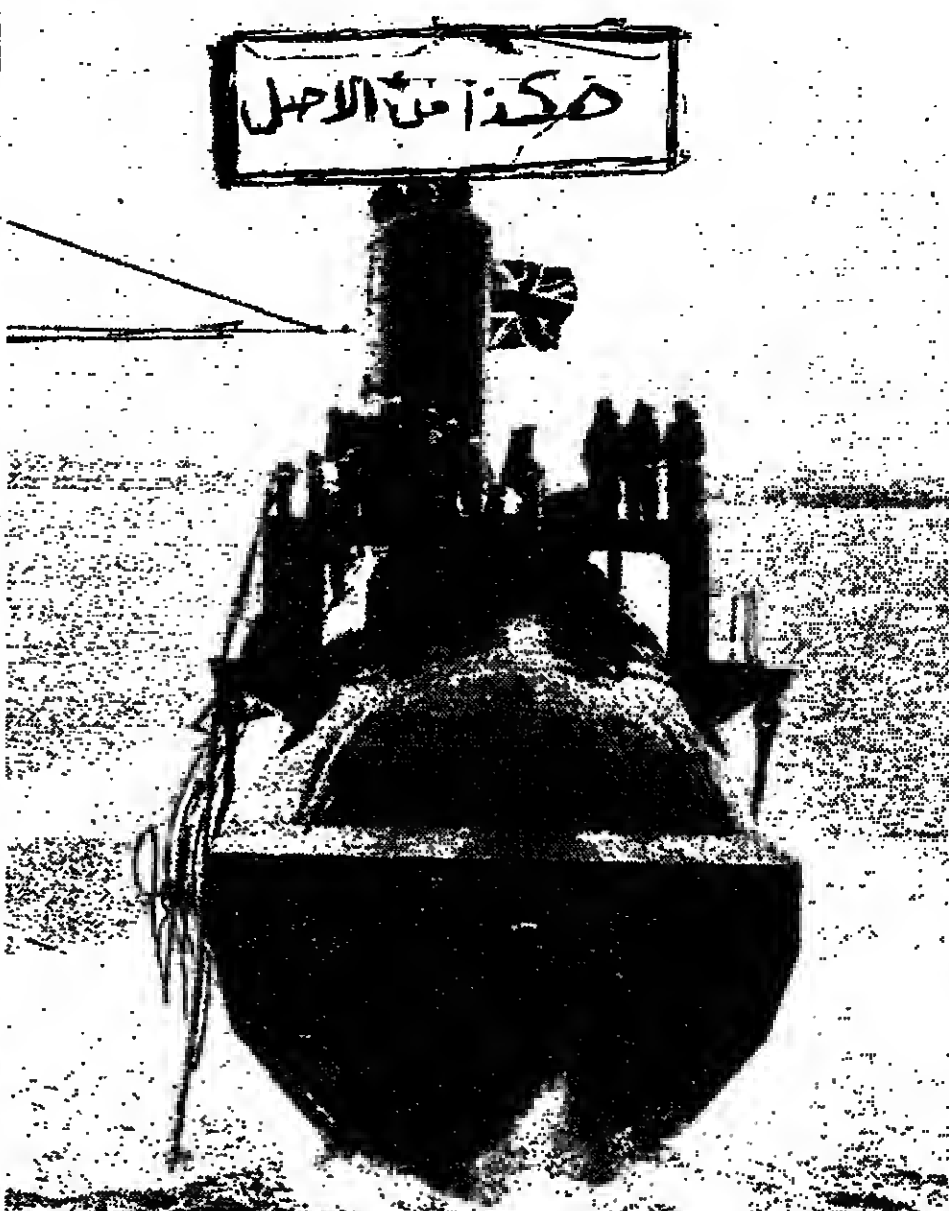
Aids patients could be nursed in open wards but they were more at risk from other patients because of their lowered immunity than the other patients were from them, Mr Wells said.

The great majority of hospitals and nursing staffs were providing "exceedingly good care" to Aids patients, Mr Clay said. "As with all serious new diseases there has been fear and panic. What we are trying to do now is turn down the heat and turn up the light."

Gay and lesbian swimming sessions at the Victoria Leisure Centre, Nottingham, are to continue in spite of 10 schools banning lessons there because of fears over contracting the Aids virus.

The Labour-controlled city council has pledged to continue the gay sessions despite a deluge of complaints from parents and Conservative councillors.

The sessions were at the request of the gay community, which has complained of harassment during normal sessions, but pool attendants have voted not to supervise them. Mrs Frances Dennett, chairman of the leisure services committee, told councillors that medical experts said it was impossible to catch the Aids virus through water.



HMS Upholder, the first diesel submarine to be built in Britain for 25 years, was launched by the Duchess of Kent at Vickers' yard in Barrow yesterday. (Photograph: Harry Kerr)

## Portfolio Gold - Success discovered by chance

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

Mortgage approvals fell by nearly 20 per cent last month because of higher interest rates and a seasonal drop in demand, the Halifax Building Society said yesterday.

The figure was 40 per cent down on the peak home-buying boom in July, but the effect has not filtered through into prices.

The Halifax house price index shows that prices increased by 13.6 per cent in the year to the end of November, the same as last month, and house price inflation has been virtually unchanged since June. Prices are rising by over four times the rate of inflation and twice as fast as average earnings.

Inflation fell in Greater London from 25 per cent in the year to October to 24 per cent last month, but in south-east England increased from 20 per cent to 22 per cent. In Yorkshire and Humberside, prices increased by 6.7 per cent, slightly less than in the previous months.

The Association of British Insurers said that the cost of rebuilding a house increased by 4.2 per cent since September 1985 and September 1986 and gave a warning that the market value of a house was not an accurate guide to rebuilding costs.

A retired Indian Army officer, from Five, in Scotland, was one of three winners of yesterday's £4,000 Portfolio Gold prize.

Mr Neil Collier, aged 64, of Elie, was clearing his desk when he found his card and decided to check the numbers. "It was quite by chance that I realized I was a winner, because I am usually too busy to look at it," he said.

Mr Thomas Ames, aged 60, and Miss Shan Abram, aged 24, estate agents in Old Brompton Road, south-west London, shared the remaining £2,000.

Miss Abram said: "We were really excited and jumping around the office when we realized we had won."



Mr Ames and Miss Abram will buy Christmas gifts

## Callas on Channel 4 for Christmas

Channel 4 yesterday announced its Christmas programmes, which will include a broadcast on December 27 of the second act of Puccini's *Tosca*, with Maria Callas in the title role and Tito Gobbi as the police chief.

Other highlights of the Channel 4 schedule include an interview with Dame Peggy Ashcroft on Christmas Eve and Vladimir Horowitz in conversation and performance on Christmas Day. Wayne Sleep leads the cast of *Das*, in a programme recorded at the Palace Theatre in London, on Christmas Eve. Rock fans are offered the

guitarist, Eric Clapton, in concert on Christmas Day and a 90-minute selection of the year's best pop videos on December 30. Comedy includes Max Headroom, joined by Bob Geldof and Tina Turner on Boxing Day, *Just Wisdom*, a documentary about Norman Wisdom on December 27. Sir David Willcocks con-

ducts his own arrangements of 23 carols from St Edmundsbury Cathedral on Christmas Eve, with Aled Jones, the Welsh boy treble, and the Royal College of Music Chamber Choir. *Cathedral Praise* on December 23 from Gloucester Cathedral will be a mixture of traditional carols and Afro-Caribbean music.

## Industrial action hits the Maze jail

Disturbances broke out at Ulster's Maze prison yesterday as prison officers began industrial action over the suspension of a colleague for allegedly sleeping on duty.

During the afternoon the Northern Ireland Office denied a news agency report that there had been a riot in the prison.

A spokesman confirmed however, that some inmates who were locked in their cells for most or all of the day, had broken a number of windows in two wings of the prison's H block.

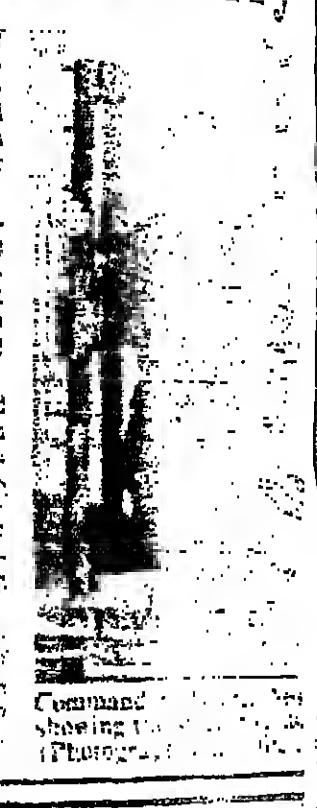
The disturbances were in one wing occupying cells by "loyalists" and in the main wing, he said. The situation at the Maze is likely to affect the expected return of 100 prisoners from Amsterdam of whom 10 had escaped in the Brexton McFarlane and Gerard Kelly.

The authorities had been intending to return the two fugitives straight to the Maze once their extradition had been achieved but the prisoners had to risk putting the two men back there in order to maintain tension and discipline.

McFarlane and Kelly will be down again in the H block after being taken to the Maze Road prison in Belfast.

Many wardens failed to follow the instructions of one prison officer.

The riot broke out on Monday and continued to main at the prison.



Command showing the structure

## News Today

Command showing the structure

Command showing the structure

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## PC made hostage offer, jury told

A young policeman offered himself as a hostage in exchange for the release of a little girl held prisoner by a kidnaper, a jury was told yesterday.

But Errol Walker, aged 29, who is accused of murdering the girl's mother, refused. Instead he started to repeatedly back the child's hands with a 10-inch knife as PC Rafi Landi looked on helplessly.

"The veins of his forehead were clearly visible. His eyes were red and wide open. He was sweating and extremely agitated," PC Landi told the Central Criminal Court.

He was describing a siege last Christmas in which Mr Walker allegedly first murdered the girl's mother, Jackie Charles, in front of her, and then subjected Carlene, aged four, to a 29-hour ordeal.

He slashed her on several occasions, dangled her from a third-floor balcony by just her vest and constantly threatened to kill her, the prosecution said.

Mr Walker, of Tachbrook Road, Southall, west London, denies murder, attempted murder, wounding, false imprisonment and threatening to kill.

The prosecution alleges that Mr Walker took Carlene and her mother hostage at their



PC Landi, hostage offer.

council flat in Poynters Court, Northolt, west London, while searching for his wife, Marlene.

Walker was demanding that police should bring his wife to see him at the flat. PC Landi said he was outside the window after Jackie was stabbed to death when he saw the toddler screaming and struggling in Mr Walker's arms.

"He put her on the floor and sat on her back with his legs either side. He held her right hand out flat on the carpet and looked at me and said he was going to cut her up."

"I appealed to him not to hurt the child but then I saw him deliberately slice his knife across the back of her hand. I saw blood coming from her hand and Carlene screamed."

"I told Walker to let the child go and offered myself as a hostage. He refused and threatened to kill her. He then started to back at her hand with the knife."

"I offered him some bandages for the girl's injuries but he refused, saying he was going to bleed her to death."

PC Landi said that he saw Mr Walker tie Carlene to a chair with flex and bit her with a radio.

"He then said he was going to cut Carlene's hand off," PC Landi said.

Next he said that Mr Walker put a plastic bag over Carlene's head and said: "Look, she's suffocating."

The jury was shown a video of the end of the siege before PC Landi's evidence. It showed officers storming into the flat, and the jury heard three shots ring out. Mr Walker, the prosecution alleges, was shot in the back of the head as he was on the point of stabbing Carlene in the neck.

The case continues today.

## Probation for armed bank visit

An engineer who walked into a bank armed with a pistol and two petrol bombs and demanded £68,000 was put on probation for two years at the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

Judge Capstick, QC, told Emil Molnar, aged 54, of Scotts Hill Cottage, Ware, Hertfordshire: "I am prepared to take an exceptional and unique course in putting you on probation."

The court was told that Molnar, a "brilliant and innovative" engineer, had a personal grudge against Lloyds Bank, which gave him a loan of £40,000 10 years ago to set up a factory.

Half way to its completion the bank converted the loan into a mortgage and recalled the money. Molnar was forced to sell everything to repay it.

He made an appointment to see the manager of the bank's branch in Oxford Street, London, and, in his office, took out home-made petrol bombs, an imitation grenade, and a gun.

The court was told he expected to be shot down by armed police and when he was arrested a note was found on him asking for his organs to go to medical science.

Molnar admitted demanding money with menaces. Mr Howard Shaw, for the defence, said: "It welled up inside him and he finally snapped".

## Breeder loses appeal over goshawk sales

A bird breeder who bought and sold four wild goshawks, worth £2,000, lost his appeal yesterday against fines and costs totalling £1,125 imposed for breaches of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.

Eric Kirkland, of Manor Road, Haughton Green, Denton, Greater Manchester, was fined by local magistrates, a decision which the Divisional Court upheld.

Lord Justice Brown ruled that it did not matter that the dealer did not know the law. The four birds cannot be returned to the wild and will be given to licensed owners.

## \$8m high-tech fraud charge

Angelo Lambert, aged 24, a clerk of Woodhouse Road, North Finchley, north London, and John Filinski, aged 22, a roofer, of Goldsmith Road, New Southgate, north London, both accused of an attempted \$8 million hi-tech fraud, were yesterday committed to the Central Criminal Court for trial.

The alleged fraud involved the transfer of securities valued at \$8,522,750 from Bache Securities' account with Morgan Guaranty, Brussels, to the account of Cedel SA, Luxembourg.

# We built Trafalgar House to withstand harsh conditions. It works.

The year to 30th September 1986 was a difficult one, yet three of the four divisions which constitute Trafalgar House's business produced improvements in operating profit.

However, the reduction in the price of oil and gas to a level which produced operating losses in the second half of the year resulted in the contribution from this division falling by £27 million compared with the previous year.

Property and Investment, and Shipping, Aviation and Hotels produced record profits.

Construction and Engineering came through a difficult year with a substantial increase in turnover, due to the acquisition of John Brown, and a marginal increase in operating profit.

	1986 RESULTS	
	£m	Change v. 1985
Property and Investment	76.4	+35%
Construction and Engineering	44.2	+7%
Shipping, Aviation and Hotels	38.5	+21%
Oil and Gas	3.8	-88%
Operating Profit	162.9	+2%
Interest	17.1	-2%
Net Profit before Taxation	145.8	+2%
Profit after Taxation and Minority Interests	115.0	+4%
Ordinary Dividend	13.2p	+15%

Group turnover increased from £1.9 billion in 1985 to £2.1 billion in 1986.

We are therefore able to announce preliminary results for the year to 30th September 1986 which show an increase in profit before tax and a 15% increase in dividend. The figures are subject to final audit.

The 1986 Report and Accounts will be posted to shareholders on 8th December 1986.

Copies may be obtained from the Secretary, 1 Berkeley St., London W1A 1BY.



## 'Cult link' ruled out on deaths

A coroner yesterday ruled out any "cult link" between the deaths of two young colleagues who travelled to Bristol to die.

In October Arshad Sharif, aged 26, a computer engineer, died after tying one end of a rope around a tree, and a nylon noose around his neck before driving off. Mr Donald Hawkins, the Bristol coroner said yesterday: "I am quite convinced that Mr Sharif intended to kill himself."

Two months earlier Vimal Dajibhai, aged 24, from Kenton, north London, a fellow worker at a local Marconi plant, plunged 250 feet to his death from the Clifton suspension bridge in Bristol.

A card from a Hindu cult was found in Mr Dajibhai's pocket and an open verdict was recorded.

The inquest in Bristol on Mr Sharif, from Walthamstow, north-east London, was adjourned two weeks ago for investigations into any possible link between the deaths.

## 17 facing corruption charges

Seven Civil Servants and 10 private building contractors accused of corruption over contracts worth more than £50 million for work at royal palaces and other government buildings, were yesterday sent for trial at the Central Criminal Court.

They include the former Greater London Council architectural department officer and six officials of the Government's Property Services Agency.

The 17 men face a total of 96 charges, mainly of giving or accepting bribes of cash, free home improvements and all-expenses-paid holidays to Miami, Las Vegas and Austria.

Mr Anthony Deduca, aged 46, of Romanburst Gardens, Bromley, Kent, owner of a building group, won a "substantial" undisclosed sum and a public apology in the High Court yesterday over allegations in the *News of the World* that his companies had been black-listed by the Property Services Agency after a bribery scandal.







# Grants to students no longer adequate government admits

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

The Government admitted for the first time yesterday that student grants were no longer adequate to meet basic expenditure needs, thus seeming to pave the way for radical reforms in methods of student support.

In written evidence to the education select committee, which is inquiring into the level of student support, the Department of Education (DES) stated: "We would not now maintain that the maintenance element of the mandatory award is sufficient to meet all the essential expenditure of the average student".

It explained that "the consideration of student needs has to be balanced by an assessment of what is fair and reasonable to ask taxpayers to contribute in the current economic climate".

And in oral evidence to the committee, Mr Nicholas Summers, an under-secretary at the DES, agreed that amend-

ments would now be necessary to the wording of the department's guidance booklet issued to potential students.

This states that the grant is "the sum, calculated annually, needed for the basic maintenance requirements of a student taking a first degree or similar qualification", and that it "normally covers tuition fees and maintenance".

The department's admission was interpreted by MPs yesterday as paving the way for radical innovations in methods of student support which would be unveiled in the government's Student Support Review being chaired by Mr George Walden, Under Secretary of State at the department. Certainly DES officials made no attempt yesterday to justify the present system.

Mr Summers emphasized that the amount of taxpayers'

money available to students would remain "broadly commensurate" with its present level, and spoke freely of alternative sources of student finance, including student loans and sponsorship. There was, he said, a general agreement on the need for a fundamental reappraisal of the arrangements for student support.

The department admitted also that the real value of student grants had fallen by 13 per cent since 1979 - though other interested bodies have in their evidence cited figures of around 20 per cent.

Mr Nicholas Baker, an assistant secretary at the DES, agreed that this fall, allied with the rapidly increasing cost of board and lodging, meant that notional allowances for books and equipment were being "squeezed out". Students were increasingly dependent on what libraries could make available to them, he said.

In further admissions, the officials also conceded that the department's estimates of student needs were based not on independent research, but on evidence supplied by the National Union of Students and the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals; and that the retail price index did not really apply to students, whose costs were entirely different from other sections of society.

Mr Summers further admitted that the new system of travel grants, limiting the sum available for any student to £170, represented "rough justice", with many students losing out.

# Separate language units 'defy race Act'

By John Clare Education Correspondent

Teaching English to Asian children in separate language units contravenes the Race Relations Act, according to a report published yesterday by the Commission for Racial Equality.

Using its powers under the Act, the commission carried out a formal investigation into the teaching of English as a second language to pupils in Calderdale, West Yorkshire. It concluded that the authority's methods could not be justified on educational grounds and amounted to indirect racial discrimination.

The commission believes that the education of up to 75,000 children in Britain, most of them Asian, could be affected by its findings.

The report says Asian children in Calderdale have to pass a language screening test before being admitted to an ordinary school. Eight out of 10 of them fail and are then segregated for up to two years.

One consequence, it says, is that the segregated children are given a restricted curriculum. It adds that the language development of Asian children is actually hindered by the separation from native speakers of English.

Calderdale, which co-operated with the commission during the investigation, now accepts the prevailing view that it is better to educate children whose first language is not English in mainstream schools and classes.

The report calls on Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education and Science, to take steps to ensure that unsatisfactory arrangements are changed.



# Court plea by mother of Ripper victim

The mother of the Yorkshire Ripper's last victim yesterday asked the Court of Appeal to overturn a High Court ruling that she could not sue the police for negligence.

Mrs Doreen Hill, from Middlesbrough, Cleveland, brought an action against West Yorkshire Police claiming her daughter would not have died were it not for mistakes made during police investigations.

She is asking Lord Justice Fox, sitting with Lord Justice Glidewell and Sir Roualeyn Cumming-Bruce, to overturn the ruling that the police had no duty of care to her daughter.

Mr Richard Clegg, QC, counsel for Mrs Hill, said that in the five years before the murder of Miss Jacqueline Hill in 1980, Peter Sutcliffe had killed or attempted to kill 20 other young women.

A police inquiry later found there had been "major errors of judgement and inefficiencies" in the investigation.

Mr Clegg said: "If they had not occurred, Sutcliffe would have been identified as a prime suspect sooner than he was and therefore he would have been arrested sooner".

He claimed it was "unjust and unfair" for the judge to decide they had no cause of action because the evidence was complete.

Once they had determined to catch him, the police were under a specific duty to do so, Mr Clegg said. "We submit they have carried out that task in a careless manner".

Mrs Hill, who was out in court, is claiming around £100,000, which she would use for a charitable trust in memory of her daughter.

The hearing continues today.

# University's £4m gift will fund art teaching

A new unit to promote teaching and research in non-Western art is to be established at the University of East Anglia, Norwich, with a £4.5 million grant from the trustees of the Sainsbury Art Trust (Our Education Reporter writes).

The award marks the golden wedding in March 1987 of Sir Robert and Lady Sainsbury and is the latest in a history of artistic ties between the family and the university.

The gift, believed to be the most significant in an institution of higher education in recent years, was described yesterday by Professor Michael Thompson, the university's vice-chancellor, as "wonderfully generous".

The grant represents a huge amount of money when set alongside the latest figures from the Universities Information Unit in London. In 1984-85, the total amount received by the 45 British universities from endowments made by industries and charities was £22.1 million.

In 1973, Sir Robert and Lady Sainsbury gave UEA their art collection of 399 items, including paintings by Picasso and Degas and sculptures by Henry Moore. Five years later they commissioned a centre for the visual arts.

It is expected that the £4.5 million will be divided evenly between the visual arts centre and the new unit, which will feature indigenous art from Africa, America and the Far East.

The university says that the non-Western art unit will contribute to undergraduate teaching in the School of Art History and Music. It is to offer two or three postgraduate bursaries for doctoral research, and there will be exhibitions and a series of publications.

The injection of cash is a welcome boost to the university, which is facing a projected cut of about £1 million from the University Grants Committee.

# School dinners staff lose appeal on jobs

An industrial tribunal has decided that a council was right to dismiss 105 school lunch assistants.

The women claimed they were constructively dismissed when they refused to accept new contracts from Enfield council in north London, which would have cut holiday and retainer pay. Some said they would lose more than £700 in wages.

Mr Alan Pardoe, representing the council, told a week-long hearing last month that Enfield was threatened with rate-capping.

In its report the panel

expressed "a deal of sympathy" with the women but said that Enfield's charges for school meals were the highest in London and it was attempting to save £250,000 on the service.

"Even if there had been a greater take-up in the service this would not have resulted in the savings that were desired."

● Farmers in the Fens of East Anglia have given five tons of food and vegetables to 45 local schools to enable pupils to prepare dishes in cookery classes using fresh produce.

# Prison for woman swindler

While awaiting trial in North Wales for obtaining £5,000 by deception from a neighbour, Anne Marie Burke, aged 22, of Park Avenue, Rogerstone, Gwent, appeared on a business in Newport swindling investors of more than £130,000. Cardiff Crown Court was told yesterday when she appeared for sentence.

Describing her as a cheat, Mr Justice McNeill jailed her for five years, which included a 12-month suspended sentence received at Caernarvon in November last year.

Among Burke's victims were a woman, aged 77, who lost £20,000 received from the sale of her house, and a mother of three who invested £20,000 insurance money.

A retired couple were left penniless after investing £58,000.

# Future of Tory MP in doubt

The Winchester Conservative Association is to meet on December 16 to discuss whether to reelect Mr John Browne as its candidate at the next election.

Mr Browne, whose former wife faces jail for non-payment of a divorce settlement, said yesterday that he was amazed at the move.

The association's former president, Lady Riches, wife of General Sir Ian Riches, said she was not interested in his divorce problems but felt he had not spent enough time in his constituency.

She is supported by other members, including Mr Hardy Wakefield, who wants the association to ask Mr Browne to step down.

Mr Browne denied being out of touch with strong local issues.

# Shorter hours 'no help to jobless'

Shorter working hours and earlier retirement would not cut the number of people out of work, a report from Charter for Jobs, a non-party campaign which promotes action over unemployment, says (Our Employment Affairs Correspondent writes).

The report, produced by Professor Richard Layard, head of the Centre for Labour Economics at the London School of Economics, points to the United Kingdom approach that had reduced working hours and at the same time increased unemployment. Research had shown that such measures led to lower output and offered no protection against unemployment.

The case for shorter working hours received no support from the research figures. When workers were given early retirement and the number of jobs remained constant, then inflation would again increase. If that was acceptable it would be better for the extra inflation to be generated by providing more jobs than by shuffling existing jobs around, it says.

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh casting an eye over tractor spreaders, sprayers, mucks and ploughs at the 175th Royal Smithfield Show at Earls Court, west London, yesterday.

A total of 170 agricultural machines and tractors were on display for the first time at the show, which is being visited by more than 20 government and commercial trade missions.

The Queen presented the trophy for the show's Supreme Champion to Mr Joseph Gilberts, of Church Farm, Coventry, for his steer Bruno, a Limousin-Charolais cross.

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Please send full details and an application card. I/We understand the rates might vary. I/We understand that the interest will be credited annually on 1st September to this account.

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Postcode \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_ T.99

**ABBEY NATIONAL**

**Simpson**  
01-734 2002  
Mummy and I went to Simpson to buy daddy's present. He said he wanted a dressing gown or a jumper, mummy couldn't decide which to buy so she bought them both!

by Rebecca

**ONE STOP CHRISTMAS SHOPPING**  
Open daily 9am to 6pm Thursdays until 7pm

**COMMENTARY**

**Geoffrey Smith**

The MIS book case is just the kind of issue that the House of Commons loves. It has a whiff of conspiracy, a good deal of mystery, a lot of personalities but not much technical detail. There is therefore a risk that too many members will enjoy today's debate too much.

It would be a pity if it becomes an occasion for unfocused indignation because there are various questions to be discussed. If ministers are to emerge unscathed they must provide more adequate answers on a number of points than they have yet done.

It is not that the Government is lacking a justification for bringing the case. There is a point of principle to be defended: that state books are published from time to time by our own authors with the aid of public money. It is essential to prove to members of the public that the security services are essential to protect them from writing books like this.

What the Government has to show is that it has been consistent and that it is able to do so in the future. The Government has to show that it is not the ground of a conspiracy. The Government has to show that it is not a conspiracy. The Government has to show that it is not a conspiracy.

**Anxieties rising again on board**

Not for the first time the Government has been accused of a conspiracy. It is almost certain that the Westland helicopter case is a conspiracy. It is almost certain that the Westland helicopter case is a conspiracy. It is almost certain that the Westland helicopter case is a conspiracy.

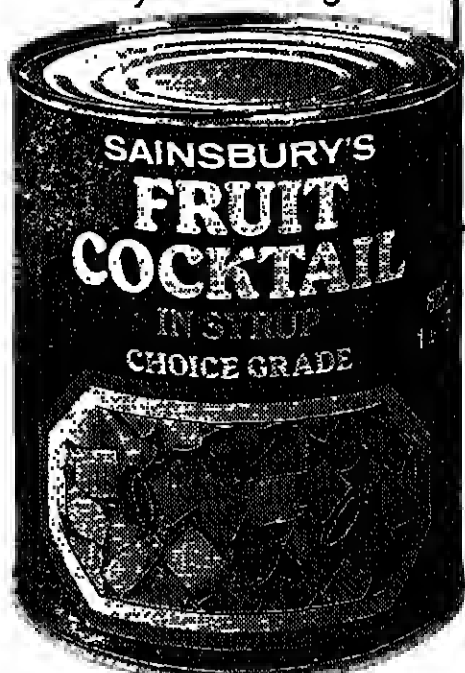


# Feast your eyes on Sainsbury's Christmas prices.



**33p**

Sainsbury's Pickled Whole Baby Beetroots 340g



**59p**

Sainsbury's Fruit Cocktail in Syrup 822g



**79p**

Princes/Homburg Cooked Ham 454g

Loose Mixed Nuts in Shells per lb	69p
Sainsbury's Button Brussels Sprouts 2lb	72p
Sainsbury's 50 Party Size Sausage Rolls 800g	85p
Walls Viennetta 550ml	89p
Sainsbury's Sweet Pickle 315g	35p
Sainsbury's Pickled Onions 710g	69p
Sainsbury's Potato Crisps 12 x 25g	89p
Sainsbury's Chocolate Biscuit Assortment 400g	£2.35
Sainsbury's Milk Chocolate Selection 1lb	£2.39
Sainsbury's Ruby Port 70cl	£3.59



**54p\***

Sainsbury's Grade A Turkeys with Giblets - all weights



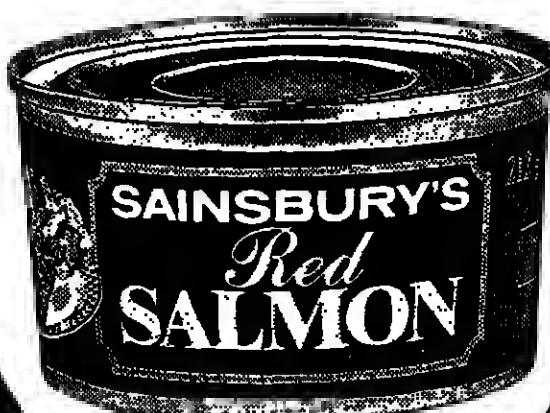
**£1.50**

Sainsbury's Rich Christmas Pudding with Stout & Rum 1lb



**85p**

Dana Danish Butter Cookies 500g tin



**£1.45**

Sainsbury's Red Salmon 212g

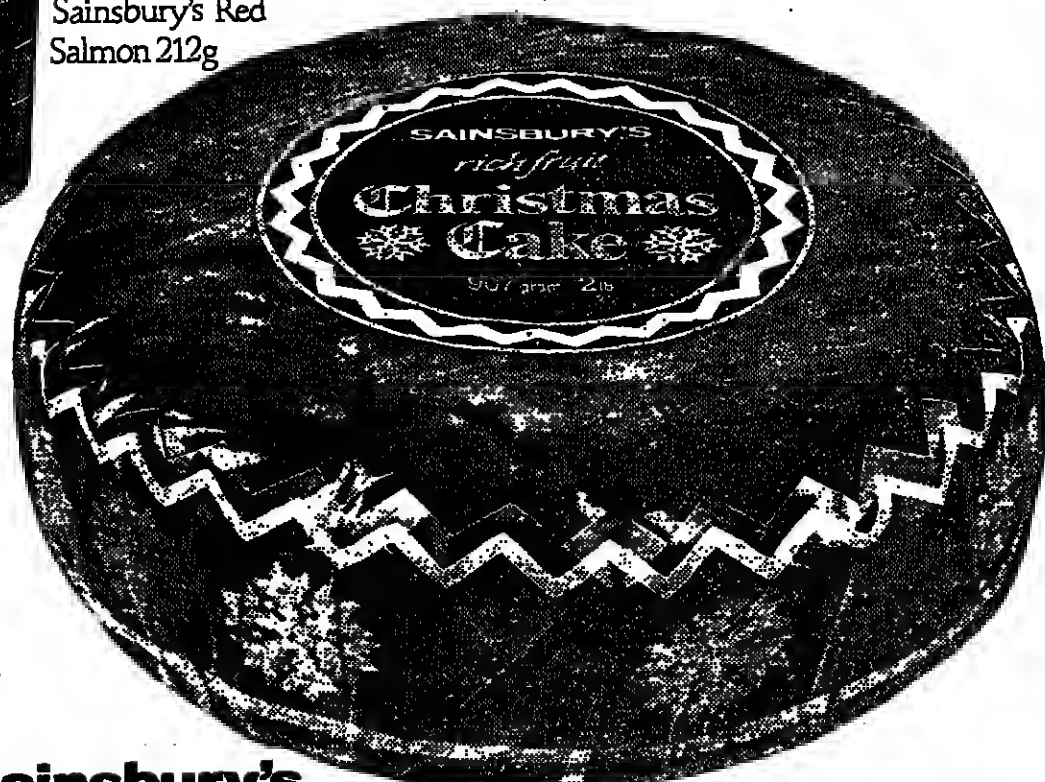


**£2.35**

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# BBC bars value-for-money audit of external services

By Richard Evans, Political Correspondent

BBC chiefs are refusing to allow the National Audit Office to carry out a value-for-money inquiry into the corporation's external services, in spite of evidence of financial mismanagement, inefficiency and a high level of cash incentives for staff.

The rebuff, which could lead to a confrontation between the BBC and the powerful Commons Public Accounts Committee, is disclosed in a highly critical report published yesterday by Sir Gordon Downey, the Comptroller and Auditor General, who expresses deep reservations about the financial running of the external services, and insists he should be allowed to carry out a full investigation.

The findings of a recent Whitehall review and the BBC's resistance to implementing recommendations changes "have underlined the need for independent access to BBC External Services for the purpose of satisfying Parliament about economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of resources met directly from public funds".

But Sir Gordon, who is independent head of the audit office (NAO) is empowered by Parliament to report on the

financial efficiency of all government departments and a large number of public bodies, is being thwarted by the BBC because of a legal disagreement over whether the corporation is covered by the National Audit Act.

He calls on the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, which finances the services, to try to resolve the disagreement on the interpretation of the National Audit Act and obtain BBC agreement to NAO access to external services.

The Public Accounts Committee, which acts as Parliament's public spending watchdog, is expected to take evidence from the BBC on Sir Gordon's report early in the new year and is bound to support his demand for access to information.

BBC External Services broadcast to countries overseas in English, through the World Service, and in 36 foreign languages. Over the past six years running costs have risen in real terms by 15 per cent, while output has increased by only 2.5 per cent.

Last year, Foreign Office grants, which pay for the world renowned services, totalled £88.2 million.

Sir Gordon's report, which covers the Foreign Office's funding and oversight of the

BBC organization, comes on the heels of a Whitehall review which concluded it would be possible to make net savings of £1.6 million a year and 151 staff.

The review team, which included officials from the Treasury and the Prime Minister's efficiency unit, found that the BBC lacked a system for reviewing annual expenditure programmes and failed to examine critically the costs of proposed capital projects.

It also discovered that in the External Broadcasting Directorate, which manages the services, there had been "a significant underlying increase in new and up-graded posts... without equivalent compensating surrenders or down-gradings of posts".

Within the directorate there was also "an unexpectedly high incidence of discretionary merit awards, enjoyed by 25 per cent of monthly paid staff, and of personal salaries awarded to 16 per cent of senior staff".

In February 1985 the review team published its report and made 38 detailed recommendations aimed at improving efficiency and effectiveness and to enhance financial control and accountability to the Foreign Office.

In spite of a proposed timetable for carrying out the changes, Sir Gordon concludes: "Progress has been variable and slower than expected in implementing the recommendations of the review". And he points to "determined BBC resistance" to any significant changes in coverage and priorities.

He adds: "There is as yet no acceptance on the part of the BBC that it should observe the same standards of accountability as are required for other grant-aided bodies".

Mr John Tusa, managing director of BBC External Services, yesterday called Sir Gordon's report "muddled and misleading".

He said: "The danger lurking for us in the NAO report is that if ever the External Services were, or were perceived abroad, to be controlled by the Foreign Office rather than the BBC Board of Governors, then our credibility with our audience would be fatally undermined".

With more than 120 million listeners, the External Services had the largest world-wide audience of any international broadcaster. The audience was obtained at much less cost and by using only a fraction of the transmission time of the BBC's main rivals, Mr Tusa said.



Jimmy Tarbuck, with Angie Layne, marking the Royal Marsden thermometer (Photograph: Tim Bishop).

## Stars aid cancer hospital appeal

By David Cross

Comedian Jimmy Tarbuck and model Angie Layne yesterday lent their support to a £5 million appeal for the Royal Marsden Hospital in Chelsea, south-west London.

They put the first marks on a giant thermometer erected outside the hospital to chart the progress of the appeal, to raise money for a new four-storey clinical block. Miss Layne has recently undergone surgery for breast cancer at the hospital.

Mr Tarbuck said: "We're heading for the first million. But there's still a long way to go before we reach our target."

Mr Marmaduke Hussey, chairman of the board of governors of the hospital and chairman of the BBC, wants to reach the £1 million mark by Christmas at the latest. "There is very little time left, but I know we can depend on the generosity of the public", he said.

Since the appeal was launched last September, more than £750,000 has been collected for the extension, which will be equipped with advanced cancer-fighting aids. These will include up to six operating theatres designed to accommodate hi-tech equipment required for the delicate reconstructive techniques now being performed on cancer patients.

## Scottish bank to cut jobs by 1,150

Clydesdale Bank in Scotland is planning at least 1,150 redundancies under a "rationalization" programme outlined to staff yesterday.

The bank will close eight to 10 branches in each of the next two or three years in Scotland's main cities and towns where it already has "adequate representation".

Banks in outlying areas will be down-graded with groups of branches coming under the control of one senior manager.

It is not known how many job losses are involved in this exercise, but the bank is also planning to lose 350 clerical jobs over a similar period.

Clydesdale says there will be no compulsory redundancies and job cuts over the next two years will be achieved through natural wastage.

The principal union involved, The Banking Insurance and Finance Union, which represents 3,500 staff, believes the Clydesdale Bank is losing its autonomy and is becoming merely a regional network of Midland Bank.

The union's first response will be to seek public support for a campaign against job losses and branch closures. Industrial action is also an option.

Clydesdale recorded a 27.17 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £29.5 million earlier this year.

In the EEC chair: 3

## Battle on air fares nearing its climax

Britain has been crusading for cheaper air fares in Europe for seven years. When we took over the Common Market presidency last July the great hope of Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, was that a successful British initiative on air fares would at last convince doubters that there were practical advantages to membership of the Common Market.

Apart from Sir Geoffrey and his Minister of State, Mrs Lynda Chalker, probably no ministerial team has worked more intently during the past five months in Europe than Mr John Moore, Secretary of State for Transport, and Mr Michael Spicer, the Aviation Minister, to secure some practical results.

In endless bilateral meetings with their Common Market counterparts they have cajoled, wheedled, bullied and threatened in an attempt to end the European carve-up on air fares.

They regard their case as unanswerable. Air traffic has grown 15 per cent in liberalized Britain. We lifted barriers with the Dutch in 1984 and London to Amsterdam in consequence is now the busiest route in the world.

In mid-November, however, after two days of furious wrangling in Brussels, their hopes foundered when the Transport Council refused to back even a compromise programme for which Mr Moore had been criticized by British consumer groups for giving too much away.

At the European summit this week Mrs Thatcher will, if she judges the mood to be right, launch a final assault. But it seems now that the battle will be won, as it eventually must be, as much in the courts as around the negotiating table.

Airline customers within Europe are cheated into paying higher prices than they should in three ways. National flag carriers divide up many routes on a 50-50 basis, fixing prices, deciding how many seats to sell and splitting the profits.

Would-be competitors are denied market access. Rules and regulations for the offering of discounts are bedged around with so many restrictions that few passengers can benefit.

Britain, with the full support of British Airways, Brit-

ish Caledonian and British Midland, is campaigning for full liberalization of air transport.

The Common Market has agreed liberalization as a target by 1992. But many member governments are fighting all the way to protect their inefficient subsidized airlines.

At the November Transport Council meeting, Mr Moore tried to get a compromise package that would still have reserved 40 per cent of capacity for the national carrier, for increased—but not absolute—access for new airlines, and for the easing of restrictions on fare discounts but the talks broke down.

On the 60-40 split on capacity only Greece and Denmark were opposed this time. On cheaper fares the opponents were down to six—France, Italy, Greece, Denmark, Spain and Portugal. Before too long, under the new European Single Act, majority voting will come in. So we need only one more convert.

Belgium takes over the presidency next and M Herman de Croo, its Transport Secretary, is a liberalizer.

On this issue we have the Common Market Commission working with us. After court cases involving a French travel agent prosecuted for undercutting Air France the European Court of Justice has ruled that the cartel arrangement is illegal. The Commission has written to all the airlines concerned after compiling a dossier on their practices. Court actions will result in time if political action fails.

Mr Spicer says that Britain will make no further compromises and that we are prepared to take unilateral action to ensure that competition is increased and fares are cut.

Mr Spicer has also underlined the other weapon available to Britain: pressure from consumers for cheaper flights.

Tomorrow: Playing the European orchestra.

## Ex-curator of museum for trial

A former curator of the National Postal Museum was committed to the Central Criminal Court for trial yesterday on 11 charges of forgery and stealing stamps from the Post Office.

William Wellstead, aged 56, faces seven charges of stealing rare stamps worth more than £8,000 between 1983 and 1985.

Mr Wellstead, former head of the museum in Holborn, central London, is also accused of obtaining a cheque by pretending he was authorized to sell stamps owned by the Post Office.

Mr Wellstead, of Ben Johnson House, Barbican, in the City, was committed by Guildhall Magistrates' Court and granted bail on condition that he surrendered his passport and provided a £10,000 surety.

## Policemen for trial on assault

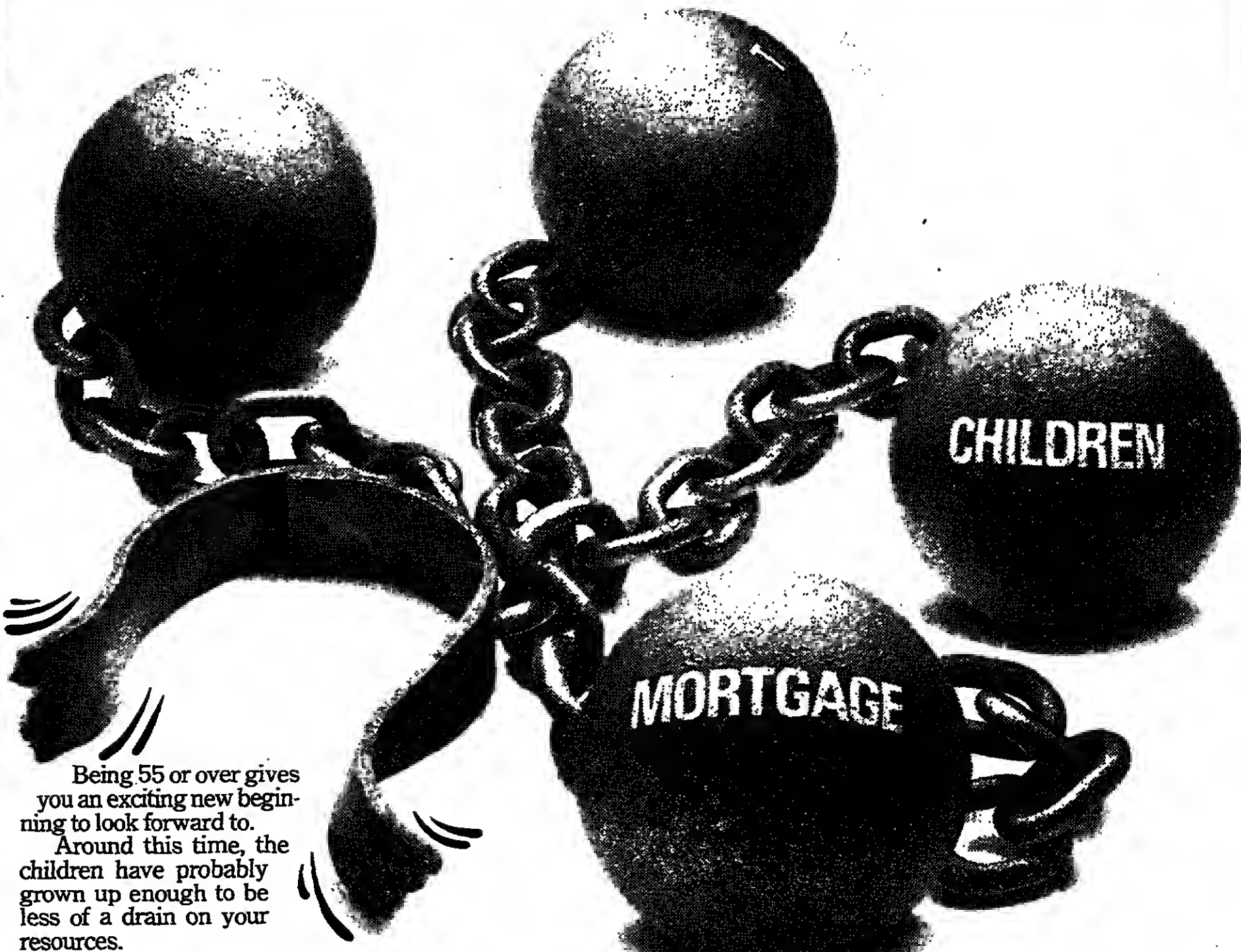
Six British Transport Police officers accused of assault during an incident last year involving supporters of Everton Football Club were yesterday committed for trial at Knightsbridge Crown Court.

PCs Gary Jennings, Peter Harding, Terence Orchard, John Berry, Martin Britt, and Police Inspector Michael Foster, whose addresses were given as the British Transport Police headquarters, The Broadway, St James's Park, Westminster, London, appeared at Wells Street Magistrates' Court, central London.

A seventh man, PC Phillip James, of Ivanhoe Road, Hounslow, west London, was discharged owing to insufficient evidence.

The alleged incident took place at Edgware Road Underground Station on October 12.

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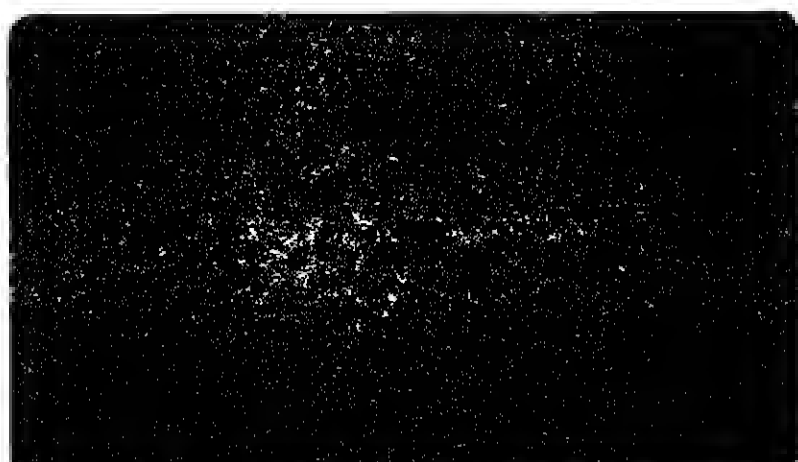
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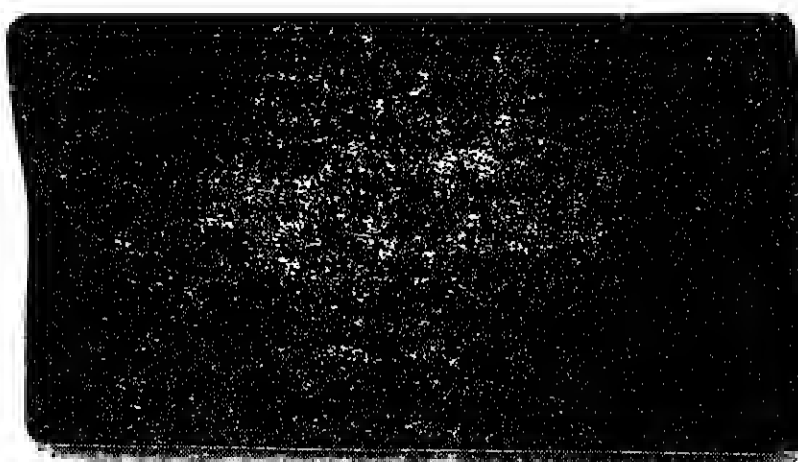
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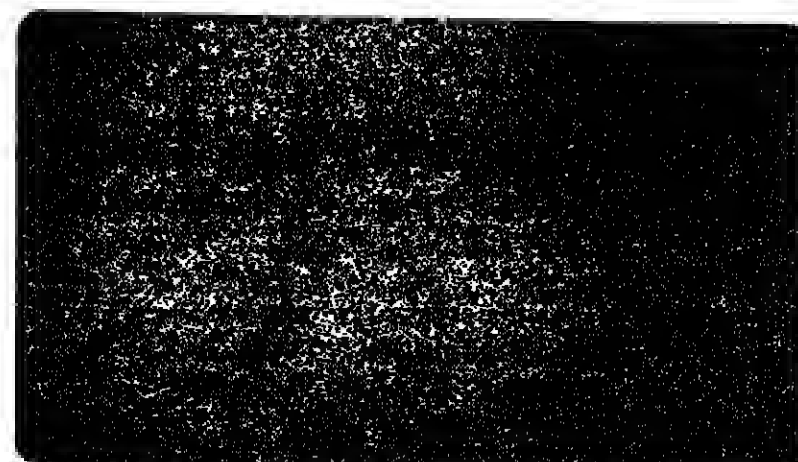
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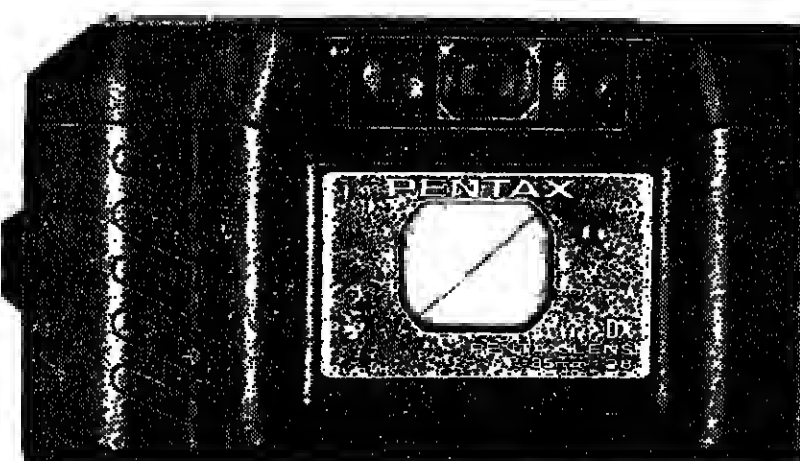
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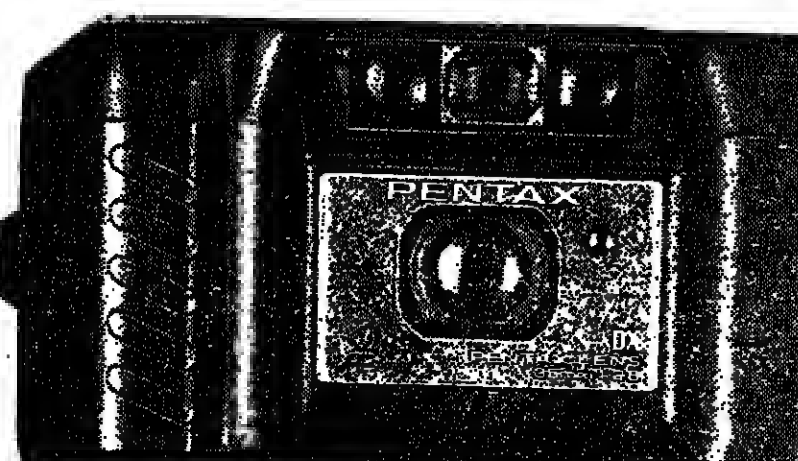
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WORLD SUMMARY

PLO halts Amal tank thrust

Beirut - Palestinian guerrillas yesterday claimed they had halted a new attack by the Shia Muslim Amal militia after hours of fierce fighting around two refugee camps in Beirut (Juan Carlos Gumbao writes).

UN blow for France

New York - The UN General Assembly voted yesterday to place the French Pacific Territory of New Caledonia under UN oversight in order to ensure the genuine self-determination of the islanders (Zoriana Pysariwsky writes).

Guerrillas hit Kabul

Islamabad (AP) - Muslim guerrillas launched an attack on the Afghan capital, Kabul, firing at least 20 rockets into the city and causing explosions around the Soviet Embassy and other key targets.

Pretoria frees Christie

Johannesburg - A former white research fellow at the University of Cape Town sentenced six years ago to a 10-year jail term for terrorism has been set free, apparently to avoid embarrassing President Botha in an embarrassing court case (Michael Horsby writes).

Arnaz dies

Los Angeles (AP) - Desi Arnaz (right), the Cuban-born entertainer who teamed with the comedienne Lucille Ball to become one of the giants of television, died early yesterday of cancer in Del Mar near San Diego.

ID papers charge

Paris (Reuter) - M Jacques Delors, head of the International Service of Technical Police Co-operation, was charged yesterday with issuing false identity papers to M Yves Chaler, an aide to the former Socialist Minister of Co-operation, who fled abroad after being accused of embezzling public funds.

Assassins kill Akrotiri mortar attack detective

From Our Own Correspondent, Limassol A Cypriot police officer involved in the investigation of the mortar attack on the British base at Akrotiri last summer has been the victim of a professional assassination in Limassol.



M Chirac, the French Prime Minister, an aide and Mr Weinberger, the US Defence Secretary, after their Paris meeting.

Poll shows popularity of Reagan reaching lowest ebb since 1982

From Michael Binyon Washington President Reagan's popularity rating has suffered the sharpest decline in the past month of any President since such polls began 50 years ago. A New York Times poll found that it has fallen from 67 to 46 per cent since the Iran arms affair began.

Crisis in the White House

adviser and a third witness, said to have been Mr John McMahon, former deputy director of the CIA. Mr McFarlane looked flushed and grim after testifying for more than six hours and refused to comment. The senators, who are sworn not to reveal what they heard, said they were getting the candour and co-operation the Administration had promised.

Mr Ross Perot was apparently ready to place \$2 million (£1.4 million) in a Zurich bank on May 23 at the request of Colonel North as part of a secret transaction to secure the release of the remaining captives to Lebanon. But Colonel North instead asked him to send the money by courier to Cyprus, according to The Washington Post.

Chirac calls for defence charter

M Jacques Chirac, the French Prime Minister, called yesterday for a "Western European charter of security principles" to reinforce European co-operation on defence, and to give a new boost to the still ailing Western European Union (WEU), the only European organization with competence in defence matters.

Israeli in 1981 'arms deal'

By Nicholas Beeston An Iranian opposition group yesterday released documents which it claimed proved that an Israeli arms dealer negotiated a secret \$136 million (£94.6 million) arms deal with Iran as early as 1981.

Conspiracy case close to collapse

The United States Attorney in Manhattan was yesterday granted a 10-day court delay in order to "reassess" the trial of 17 men accused of conspiring to send \$2 billion (£1.4 billion) in arms to Iran.

The arms debate

Moscow threat to end moratorium on nuclear testing

Moscow (Reuter) - Senior Soviet officials yesterday accused Washington of stalling in talks on nuclear weapons testing and indicated that Moscow might resume its own tests, suspended for almost 18 months, in the New Year.

Mr Yury Vorontsov, First Deputy Foreign Minister, said a decision on whether to end the Soviet moratorium on underground tests depended on the behaviour of the American Administration between now and the end of the year.

Kinnock accuses US of 'bad faith'

Mr Neil Kinnock claimed last night that President Reagan's promise to Mrs Thatcher that Britain could continue to purchase the Trident missile system as a replacement for Polaris would never be implemented.

His accusation of bad faith on the part of the President came in a speech in Boston, his first major attempt to win American acquiescence in Labour's unilateralist strategy involving the banning of all US nuclear weapons.

He described the President's pledge to Mrs Thatcher when she flew to Washington after the Reykjavik summit as "an undertaking of sorts, a tribute to the communiqué drafter's art".

He said Mrs Thatcher was "one of the few people in the world who believes that an American president who was securing 50 per cent cuts in strategic ballistic missiles in the next five years would meanwhile placidly allow the UK to increase its strategic ballistic system by 800 per cent".

In his speech at the Kennedy School of Government Mr Kinnock accused Mrs Thatcher of trying to impede the reduction or elimination of nuclear weapons.

He said the full extent of Labour's ban on US nuclear weapons would be the closing of cruise missile sites at Greenham Common and Molesworth, the Poseidon submarine facilities at Holy Loch and a change to a non-nuclear role for the F111 aircraft.

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# Hindu gangs take to Delhi streets in vengeance for massacre

From Our Own Correspondent, Delhi

Mob violence shook the Indian capital yesterday as angry Hindu gangs tried to exact vengeance for the bus massacre of 24 Hindus by Sikh terrorists at the weekend.

Police action saved the situation from getting out of hand and last night the Army was put on alert. Tear gas, baton charges and shots fired in the air were needed to quell the riots.

Mr Ved Marwah, the Delhi police chief, said that six policemen, including an assistant commissioner, were injured by stone-throwing mobs. Witnesses put the figure nearer to 30. More than 800 people were reported to have been arrested.

One of the worst incidents took place outside the 300-year-old Sikh temple, Sisganj, in the historic Chandni Chowk, which is usually thronged with tourists at this time of year. A 1,000-strong mob threw stones at the building until the Sikhs inside swarmed out waving swords, knives and spears.

Police cleared the area but the Hindu gangs played hide-and-seek with police in the narrow streets of Old Delhi, throwing stones and then melting away.

The Government arrested more than 80 people in the Punjab, including two prominent politicians, Mr Prakash Singh Badal, the leader of a breakaway faction of the ruling Akali Dal Party, and Mr Gurcharan Singh Tohra, one of his supporters, who was

elected head of the principal temple management committee of the Golden Temple of Amritsar on Sunday.

Defending the decision to arrest the two, who will immediately become martyrs with the militant Sikhs, Mr Buta Singh, the Home Minister in the central Government, told Parliament that they and others had been arrested and detained under the National Security Act because of their "cynical optimism" that they could gain power by blending terrorism with religious sentiments.

The Punjab Chief Minister, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, has introduced a series of measures aimed at strengthening his government's response to the terrorists. Four armed guards will be posted on all buses at night and rewards of 100,000 rupees (£5,000) will be given for information about terrorists and their plans.

He has dismissed two Cabinet ministers for supporting Mr Tohra in the temple elections. He said the arrested politicians had been openly supporting the terrorist element and that so far his own moderation and patience had been taken by some as a sign of weakness.

He said a many-pronged attack on terrorism would unfold over the next few days and pointed out that the perpetrators of the last bus massacre, in July, have been caught. He promised the same

late for those responsible for Sunday's killings.

The terrorists continued their bloody activities during the past 48 hours, killing another 10 people in isolated incidents in the state, where the principal Hindu organization has threatened a campaign of non-co-operation unless Mr Surjit Singh's Government is sacked and control is given to the Army.

Feeling desperately insecure, the Hindus are planning to begin their campaign on January 1 by blocking the offices where sales tax is paid. Yesterday's riots took place during a general strike called by the Bharatiya Janata Party, which is generally supported by the Hindu chauvinists. Organizers said the strike was a total success.

There were no buses on the roads after the Delhi Transport Commission decided not to risk further bus burnings.

Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Prime Minister, last night reviewed the Punjab situation with his Home Minister, Mr Buta Singh, and the Minister of State, Mr P. Chidambaram. The political affairs committee of the Cabinet has met twice during the past three days to evolve new measures against the terrorists.

The Prime Minister's Office said last night that Mr Rajiv Gandhi has reaffirmed his commitment to implement the Punjab accord, and to help the state's crippled economy back on the rails.



Sword in hand, a Sikh militant chants nationalist slogans in Delhi during yesterday's riots.

## Russians prepare a shuttle

From Mohsin Ali Washington

The Soviet Union has completed the first tests on its space shuttle on the launch pad at Tyuratam, the authoritative US magazine *Aviation Week and Space Technology* reported yesterday.

It said US reconnaissance satellite pictures showed the Soviet orbiter mounted piggy-back on its heavy expendable launch vehicle while undergoing checks.

The Soviet orbiter was removed from the launch pad after the tests, it said.

American intelligence officials think Moscow will attempt the first launch of the expendable booster next year — unmanned but with its piggy-back cargo pod.

The first Soviet-manned launch is expected in 1988 at about the same time the US shuttle returns to flight.

● BORDEAUX: The European Ariane rocket programme, suspended on May 30 after a rocket crashed soon after lift-off, will resume satellite launches in March 1987 or thereabouts, M Frederic d'Allest, the ArianeSpace president, said yesterday.

## Chorus of criticism Pressure mounts on Haitian ruler

From Alan Tomlinson, Port-au-Prince

The provisional government of General Henri Namphy, the armed forces chief, is under increasing pressure to step down amid persistent popular unrest and instability in an army poorly prepared to deal with it.

Political parties, unions, civic groups and radical Catholic priests are leading a rising chorus of criticism of the caretaker regime which has pledged to stay on until general elections in a year.

They accuse the ruling Council of National Government (CNG) of incompetent leadership, failure to reform a corrupt and inefficient administrative system and reluctance to purge former associates of ousted President "Baby Doc" Duvalier from army and public life.

The Government recently survived a general strike, a reported coup plot and a boycott of elections for a constituent assembly — dramatically underlining a loss of public faith in its ability to guide the Caribbean island nation to democracy after 29 years of dictatorship.

But the strongest challenge to General Namphy's authority may yet be in store. People in the rebellious northern sea port of Gonaives, which led the uprising that toppled President Duvalier in February, are threatening to declare an alternative government later this week and to block the main northern highway, effectively cutting the country in two.

The United States is backing the general with \$109 million (£76 million) in economic aid, plus \$4 million in non-lethal hardware for a 7,000-man army and police force which US officials concede does not have the experience, training or equipment to deal with disorder. The army was subjugated during three decades of Duvalier rule to the dynasty's brutal private security force, the now-disbanded Tonton Macoutes.

President Reagan recently underlined his support for General Namphy by inviting him to the White House, but on the eve of the general's departure on November 19, troops and armoured cars surrounded the presidential palace following the discovery of an apparent coup attempt.

Haitian newspapers have since carried reports of an apparent uprising by discontented junior officers. In an apparent attempt to pacify a rebellion in his ranks, General Namphy is reported to have transferred the conspirators to provincial posts rather than court martial them. US officials would not confirm or deny a coup attempt, admitting only that "there has been a lot of turmoil in the army".

The turmoil coincided with continuing civil unrest. While General Namphy was in the US, Haiti was paralysed by a week-long general strike led by the country's estimated 5,000 transport workers.

In a speech to the US, General Namphy dismissed the unrest as evidence of "the vitality of our infant democracy". He added in an interview: "It is only normal that we should go through a stormy period at first."

## Elvis was drug spy for Nixon

From Mohsin Ali Washington

The White House sent Elvis Presley a special badge after he had told President Nixon at a 1970 meeting that the Beatles had been a real force for anti-American spirit.

The rock singer had earlier written to Mr Nixon offering his services as an anti-drug agent and saying: "I can and will do more good if I were made a federal agent at large."

Presley was later sent the badge with his name engraved on it, designating him an honorary anti-drug agent. Mr Nixon told him that drug users were also in the vanguard of anti-American protests.

The presidential dealing with Presley was revealed in the latest batch of Nixon papers released to the public on Monday.

They also include a memorandum by a current White House aide urging Mr Nixon not to visit Dr Martin Luther King's widow on the first anniversary of her husband's assassination.

President Nixon had mainly sought to keep secret the papers, which include about 1.5 million pages of Administration documents. They disclose that the White House was caught off-guard by the public outcry against an effort to deport the late Beatle, John Lennon.

Senator Strom Thurmond, a South Carolina Republican, appears to have been instrumental in pressing the case against Lennon, who opposed the US war effort in Vietnam. In a memorandum to the White House, he said a series of concerts by Lennon "will pour tremendous amounts of cash in the coffers of the New Left".

## Gunmen kill leading blacks

From Michael Hornsby Johannesburg

A prominent black political activist and medical doctor, Dr Fabian Ribeiro, and his wife, were killed by unknown gunmen in their home in Mamelodi, a black township near Pretoria, on Monday evening, it was learnt here yesterday.

Johannesburg's evening newspaper, *The Star*, reported that neighbours of the Ribeiros claimed to have seen two masked white men at the scene of the shooting.

The neighbours reportedly tried to follow the two assailants who, they said, fled in two cars, a jeep and a white Datsun Skyline. The gunmen fired on their pursuers, and then switched cars at a petrol station and made for Pretoria.

The government's Bureau for Information maintained, however, that "two black persons fired about seven shots at Dr and Mrs F. D. Ribeiro, fatally wounding both" with a .45 calibre weapon.

According to the bureau, Mrs Ribeiro was the sister of the late Mr Robert Sobukwe, former leader of the Pan Africanist Congress (PAC), which broke away from the African National Congress (ANC) in 1959. Other reports said she was Mr Sobukwe's sister-in-law.

The bureau's account left the impression that the killing was another example of inter-racial warfare between different black factions. But Dr Ribeiro was a respected elder statesman of the black resistance movement, with good relations with all groups.

Earlier this year, Dr Ribeiro's Mamelodi home was petrol-bombed, and he said that he believed government agents were responsible.

"I found a police vehicle parked outside my house. I rushed to the van and told them that my house was on fire, and they would not respond or move an inch."

Dr Ribeiro was detained for a time during the state of emergency.

Meanwhile, officials of the Metal and Allied Workers' Union (MAWU) said that soldiers and government officials yesterday visited the black township outside Brits, west of Pretoria, where 10,000 people are threatened with forced resettlement.

"They went from house to house checking how many people were in them and taking their names," said Mr Jacob Masagwe, a MAWU organizer.

The 50-year-old township, known as Oukasia (an abbreviation of the Afrikaans for "Old Location") was "abolished" by government decree on October 17, and its remaining 10,000 inhabitants became illegal squatters.

Pretoria intends to move them to a new site some 15 miles away, where 5,000 former residents of Oukasia, which abuts a white suburb of Brits, agreed to settle at the end of last year. The remainder, however, wish to stay and signed affidavits to that effect at the end of last month.

## Juror tells court of bribe

Qutawa — The Montreal trial of four Hell's Angels bikers charged with a multiple murder has been stunned by the revelation that one of 12 jurors accepted a Can\$25,000 (£12,500) bribe to bring about an acquittal or a hung jury (John Best writes).

Mr Justice Jean-Guy Boilard of Quebec Superior Court dismissed the unidentified juror after receiving a note from him reading: "I have been bought — Hell's Angels juror No 8."

The judge rejected vehement demands by two defence lawyers for a mistrial. The four are charged with killing five other bikers in 1985.

## Woman's body found in wood

Athens — Police on the island of Rhodes are "99 per cent sure" they have found the body of 73-year-old Mrs Mary Lee Cooper, from Leeds, who vanished during a holiday with her family and friends two months ago (A Correspondent writes).

The body was discovered by chance about half a mile into a pine forest near the village of Lardhos. Relatives said Mrs Cooper had suffered from amnesia.

## Ivory ban

Dar es Salaam (AFP) — The Tanzanian Government withdrew all ivory trading licences yesterday and banned the sale and export of big-game trophies in a new bid to save the country's dwindling game.

## New friends

Peking (Reuters) — President de la Madrid of Mexico arrives in China tomorrow for a one-week official visit aimed at consolidating political relations and improving trade links.

## Birds hazard

Angelholm (Reuters) — A collision with birds probably caused the crash of a Swedish-built fighter plane last month in which the Austrian pilot was killed.

## Coal plans

Antaibao, China (Reuters) — Mr Armand Hammer, chairman of the Occidental Petroleum Corporation, announced plans to triple the output of China's largest coal mine, partly owned by his company, from 15 to 45 million tonnes.

## 20-year coma

Johannesburg (AFP) — Mrs Everlie Blerk-Warren, a South African woman who went into a coma while giving birth to her first child in 1967, has died without ever regaining consciousness or being aware of her son, now aged 19.

## Two held

Manila — (Reuters) — A government panel investigating the murder of the left-wing union leader Mr Rolando Olalia and his driver, has ordered the detention of a soldier and a civilian suspected of involvement.

## Fraga plea after resignation

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

Señor Manuel Fraga, the Spanish Opposition leader, pleaded with thousands of his fervent supporters who gathered yesterday in a central Madrid street to understand his "supreme sacrifice" in deciding to resign from leading the right wing party because of election defeats.

He addressed the crowd from a balcony at party headquarters as the national executive of his Popular Alliance began a crisis meeting.

Señor Fraga read them a letter of resignation which he said was "irrevocable".

"Do not go if Fraga goes, we all go too," the crowd chanted, adding "Without Fraga we will not vote."

Señor Fraga, aged 64, a veteran politician and a major figure on the Right throughout Spain's transition to democracy, had already informed King Juan Carlos of his decision.

Two of his deputies as party chief, including Señor Gerardo Fernández, the Chief Minister of Galicia, who took part in the National Executive crisis meeting last night, said they would be seeking to persuade Señor Fraga to change his mind.

The immediate reason behind Señor Fraga's decision,

coming after months of trouble within his party, was the Popular Alliance's disastrous performance in the Basque general election on Sunday.

Señor Fraga had campaigned with his typical vigour but his party won only two seats in the Basque parliament.

Behind his personal reaction lay months of rows and expulsions of other party leaders, debt problems with Spain's influential private banks after over-spending, and the complete failure of Señor Fraga's "master plan" to dislodge the Socialists from power at Spain's general election in June.

The anguish of party members at Señor Fraga's announcement could also be explained by the evident risk that the Spanish Right, in its present low state, could disintegrate entirely if such a "father figure" departs.



Señor Fraga: resignation is "irrevocable".

## She used to be abused by her father.

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**Army Officer**



# MI5 case: Judge orders papers disclosed Whitehall ponders secrets appeal

From Stephen Taylor  
Sydney

Whitehall has until tomorrow to decide its response to an order that it make available secret papers to Mr Peter Wright and his lawyers in the MI5 book hearing.

The British Government's reluctance to give up the papers has been a consistent feature of the case, now in its third week, and it would come as no surprise if it decides to seek leave to appeal against yesterday's disclosure ruling by Mr Justice Powell.

The judge, who last week won his own demand to see the papers, yesterday overruled Whitehall's claim that they were so secret as to be exempt from usual considerations of public interest.

He produced a schedule of the papers which he indicated had been edited in a way intended to protect British security interests and, at the same time, to provide information sought by Mr Wright's lawyers on why the Government did not try to restrain other controversial books on security service operations.

Even the schedule remains secret and was said by British officials to have been transmitted in code to Whitehall for consideration.

Compliance with the order could see the hearing ended early next week. That would raise the prospect of a ruling on the application for an injunction to suppress publication of Mr Wright's book by the end of the year. But an appeal could prolong the case significantly.

In the first instance, Whitehall would ask the Court of



Mr William Schaap, the American publisher and CIA expert, arriving at the Supreme Court in Sydney yesterday.

Appeal for leave to appeal against Mr Justice Powell's order. Such leave is not granted automatically by the three appeal court judges, and the British side has already been turned down once before over the papers.

Mr Justice Powell said in his ruling yesterday that although some of the papers were highly confidential, others could not be said to be covered by the immunity claim, and it was edited versions of these that he sought to make available to the defence.

If the Appeal Court did grant leave, it would probably need some days to examine the papers and evaluate them before giving a ruling.

If, again, leave was rejected, there is one last avenue of appeal open to the Government, and that is the High Court in Canberra.

For the first time, Mr Justice Powell suggested yesterday that a compromise in the 14-month-old wrangle was a possibility when he said that if he accepted Whitehall's "fall-back position" he might "have to undertake a blue-

pencil exercise".

He did not expand on this remark, and the hint at a possible sanitized version of the Wright manuscript was dismissed by Sir Robert Armstrong, the Cabinet Secretary.

Sir Robert said in cross-examination yesterday that the objection to the manuscript remained unchanged.

The only other witness yesterday was Mr William Schaap, a lawyer and publisher who was called on Mr Wright's behalf, and who has published books by former members of the United States

security services.

He described the functions of the CIA manuscript review panel, and said Sir Robert's evidence that the CIA, as a friendly intelligence agency, would be concerned by the publication of Mr Wright's book was "untenable".

Mr Schaap said: "The CIA on its own has approved the publication of books at least as intriguing as the (Wright) book, and with considerable, indeed voluminous, details about personnel, operations, technology and all aspects of intelligence work."

# Bhopal gas tragedy claims more victims two years on

From Michael Hamlyn, Bhopal

When Babu Khan, aged 61, a bookbinder, died yesterday in the new Jawaharlal Nehru Hospital, his family said he was merely the latest victim of the Bhopal gas tragedy.

So far 2,352 people are certified by the State Government to have died from the effects of the gas. The number keeps increasing as more and more cases are investigated and as people like Babu Khan die.

Today marks the second anniversary of the day the deadly methyl isocyanate (MIC) gas seeped from the pesticide manufacturing plant, owned by the Union Carbide Corporation, over the sleeping town.

The police superintendent forecasts that the demonstrations, processions and public

oups, feelings are even more bitter. Those which received funds from Union Carbide are accused by the more revolutionary organizations of being stooges and of collecting data only to prove the effects of the MIC gas are minimal, and that the real villain is malnutrition.

Even the organization that provided funds for Mr David Bergman, the Briton later arrested and accused of offences under the Secrets Act, was accused of this kind of heresy when two of its members called for a programme of milk distribution.

Mr Bergman, who has been given until the end of the month to leave India, is a symbol of the ill feelings between the state authorities and the volunteer organizations. "Mr Bergman was not doing anything worthwhile among the people," said Mr Satyanand Mishra, the state's publicity director. "He was only collecting some kids in a decrepit store house and teaching them to paint."

Said the police superintendent: "He was found in possession of classified material." A paper on the effect of MIC on plants, animals and fishes, which is obtainable by writing to the Indian Centre for Agricultural Research, scuffed at Mr Arvind Rajagopal, of the Bhopal Gas Information and Action Centre, which helped Mr Bergman, and which has itself been accused of reformism by the most vehement of the groups.

The latter organization, the Zahreel Gas Khand Sangarsh Morcha - Poison Gas Tragedy Struggle Front - has assembled a list of demands which will be pressed during today's demonstrations.

The Morcha organizers urge that better treatment for the gas affected could be discovered if only more detailed and more regular investigations of the victims was provided.

They call for permanent employment for those whose ability to work has been diminished by their failing lungs, and for adequate compensation without delay for their suffering. They also

seek punishment for Union Carbide and a ban on all Carbide-sponsored clinics.

Despite the quarrelling, the actual medical attention received by the people of Bhopal has improved dramatically over the past two years. It will clearly not be long before - at least in terms of equipment - the city's hospital will be the finest in the country.

Dr Bhandari's own hospital is installing, for example, a six-unit central station monitoring unit in the paediatric ward, incubators are being brought in for better care of new-born infants, spirometers each worth 600,000 rupees (£32,000) are being imported to test lungs.

But all the medical equipment in the world will not help Babu Khan. Nor does it appear to be helping such as Israr Ahmed, a gas victim, aged 38, looking 10 years older whose lungs were seared by the gas, and who has been in and out of hospital ever since.

He was a cobbler but has been unable to work. His family lived on his 25 or 30 rupees a day but now have to depend on the five or 10 rupees Farida, his wife, gets from sewing, and on what his father-in-law can spare.

There are other victims too. Not many people can feel sorry for Mr Jagannath Mknand, the Union Carbide plant

manager, who is still subject to investigation by the Indian police, and over whose head criminal charges still hang. He sits behind the barred wire defences of the plant, clearing his desk for his transfer to the Bombay office.

He seems unlikely to find other work to do even there, except in connection with the legal proceedings, and he is probably unemployable elsewhere.

While his employer, who was far away in America, was burned in effigy last year, Mr Mknand's effigy was buried. "No," he says, "it doesn't seem like a bad dream. We are living with the consequences every day."

Now people think that something is going on

disturbances will be a good deal less than last year, and a citizen hearing him explains: "People are getting better, and now the case is being heard people think that something is going on, the Government is fighting for them."

Though the case has indeed started, and though some left-wingers are forecasting a shameful settlement will be made shortly, the organizations looking after the gas victims are not in the best shape. Doctors and voluntary organizations are quarrelling among themselves and both of them are falling out with the Government.

The doctors are at loggerheads over the results of post mortems on people who have died since the tragedy. Those responsible for treating the victims say the results are being kept secret by the forensic science department, headed by Dr Hresh Chandra, because of its evidential possibilities in the case.

"If we had more information it could increase our ability to heal," insisted Dr N R Bhandari, the superintendent of the Hamidia Hospital, the city's biggest medical institution, but he says that he can only give his findings in the court. Among the volunteer pr-

We live with the consequences every day

# Poles seek damages after spill

From Roger Boyes  
Warsaw

Poland will ask Czechoslovakia for compensation for the damage inflicted by an oil slick which leaked into the Oder River last month, a Government spokesman said yesterday.

There is no concealing the friction between the two Soviet allies since the fuel oil seeped from a concrete factory in Ostrava, on the Czech side of the frontier.

The Polish Government spokesman, Mr Jerzy Urban, was unable to explain the discrepancy between the Czech version - that only about 40 tonnes of oil entered the Oder - and the Polish experience. Hundreds of emergency workers have dredged some 100 tonnes of the slick from the surface of the river and the Polish estimate of the pollution is close to 200 tonnes.

The Poles are concerned that the fuel oil could have entered the food cycle - though so far this seems to have been avoided - and have not blocked the publication of articles criticizing Prague.

The main complaint is about late and inadequate information provided by the Czechs to the Polish Consul in Ostrava

# Kung fu and yellow dresses in run-up to Taiwan poll

From Robert Grieses  
Taipei

During the campaign run-up to Taiwan's legislative elections on Saturday, Taipei has been treated to public rallies in support of the kung fu candidate, the jogging candidate and half-a-dozen candidates wearing yellow dresses whose sole qualification for office appears to be their close resemblance to President Aquino of the Philippines.

Forty-four opposition candidates are campaigning for a total of 157 seats in the Legislative Yuan, Taiwan's parliament, and in the National Assembly, which elects a president every six years.

This past October, the Kuomintang's central standing committee adopted a resolution that would lift Taiwan's 37-year-old martial law and replace it with national security and election laws.

Under the election law, which is expected to be passed early next year, the creation of political parties would be legal. Until then, however, parties such as the Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) which was formed in September, are officially banned, although the Kuomintang has not yet moved to suppress it and the party is fielding candidates in this election.

Mr Hsu Hsin-liang, the Taiwanese political dissident who failed to return to Taiwan on Sunday from his self-imposed exile in the US, was forced to return to Manila after landing in Taipei yesterday (Robert Grieses writes from Taipei).

Mr Hsu landed at Chiang Kai-shek airport on a Philippine Airlines flight. Taiwanese authorities stopped the aircraft on the runway apron and then checked visas. After finding that Mr Hsu's visa was not in order they returned him to Manila.

MANILA: Mr Hsu was last night at Manila International Airport unable to enter the Philippines since he was carrying only an expired Taiwanese passport and an American travel document (David Watts writes). He planned to take a flight back to Tokyo today.

The campaigning, which began on November 21, has been divided into phases. In the first week, individual candidates were allowed to campaign wherever and as often as they liked. In the second week, both Kuomintang and opposition candidates have appeared together in a series of four-hour-long rallies at schools and other public areas.

At an outdoor rally in a small Taipei park last week,

Mr Hsieh Chang-ning, aged 40, one of the most dynamic candidates of the fledgling DPP, addressed a crowd of more than 1,000 people at noon. The appearance was one of four that Mr Hsieh, a lawyer and city councillor, was scheduled to make that day.

"Ten years ago, Taiwanese believed that President Chiang-kuo was our future," said Mr Hsieh. "Now, I say, Taiwan's future depends on Taiwanese."

Across the town at a rally of another DPP candidate whose husband is in jail on political charges, two folk singers attracted a large crowd to an urban park, where platforms, speakers and microphones had been set up.

There on sale among other pamphlets and leaflets were reprints of Time magazine's 1985 Man of the Year issue which featured Mr Deng Xiaoping, the senior leader of the People's Republic of China, as well as copies of the *Song Dynasty*, a book that portrays the Kuomintang as corrupt and ruthless.

This week, the long rallies at which Kuomintang and opposition candidates speak for only 15 minutes each have been far more subdued than the so-called personal campaigns of last week.

# Indonesia buys more Rapiers

Jakarta - Indonesia has signed a £40 million contract with British Aerospace for its third consecutive order of Rapiet missiles (Our Own Correspondent writes).

Military sources said the Rapiet system, chosen by the Indonesian Army in 1984 over the French Roland missile, gives Indonesia its most modern ground-to-air missile, replacing 10-year-old Swedish weapons.

Rapiet is now used in 13 countries, and it is believed that Indonesia chose it because of its ease of transport for use in the defence of outlying islands and oil rigs.

The Indonesian Navy uses French Exocet missiles and earlier this year the armed forces signed a letter of intent to buy 12 American F 16 fighter planes.

# MPs meet Papandreou over Cyprus

From A Correspondent, Athens

A six-member British parliamentary investigating team yesterday met Greece's Prime Minister, Mr Andreas Papandreou, as part of a fact-finding effort on the deadlocked Cyprus intercommunal talks.

The delegation, led by Sir Anthony Kershaw, Conservative MP for Stroud, was also

briefed by Greece's Conservative opposition leader, Mr Constantine Mitsotakis, and members of the Greek Parliament before leaving for Nicosia.

Sir Anthony said his report would focus on Cyprus but would also address relations between Greece and Turkey. Last May, the House of

Commons commissioned the inquiry into the Cyprus question.

The delegation also includes Conservative MPs Robert Harvey, Jim Lester and Peter Thomas, and Labour MPs Dennis Canavan and Mick Welsh. Another Conservative MP, Mr Ivan Lawrence QC, will join the group in Nicosia.

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# Catholic priests grow old in Chinese prisons

By Caroline Moorehead

Father Vincent Zhu Hong-sheng has been 29 years in captivity. A Chinese Jesuit priest, he is being held in Shanghai prison and is not due for release until 1996 when he will be 82.

His crime is that of "carrying on intrigues with foreign countries", but friends are certain that he owes his continuing detention to a refusal to join the Government-controlled Catholic Patriotic Association.

Father Zhu is only one of seven Catholic priests, all aged between 65 and 79, in prison or labour camps in China for at least 20 years for continuing to carry out banned religious work.

Their stories are remarkably similar: first arrested in the 1950s, they were briefly released in the late 1970s, only to be detained again in the early 1980s. One, Father Francis Wang Chuhua, has tuberculosis and is almost blind.



Father Zhu: 29 years in jail with 10 more to serve.

# PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE

Elsewhere in China, in Hebei province, 40 Catholics, including five elderly priests and nuns, are believed to have been arrested in September.

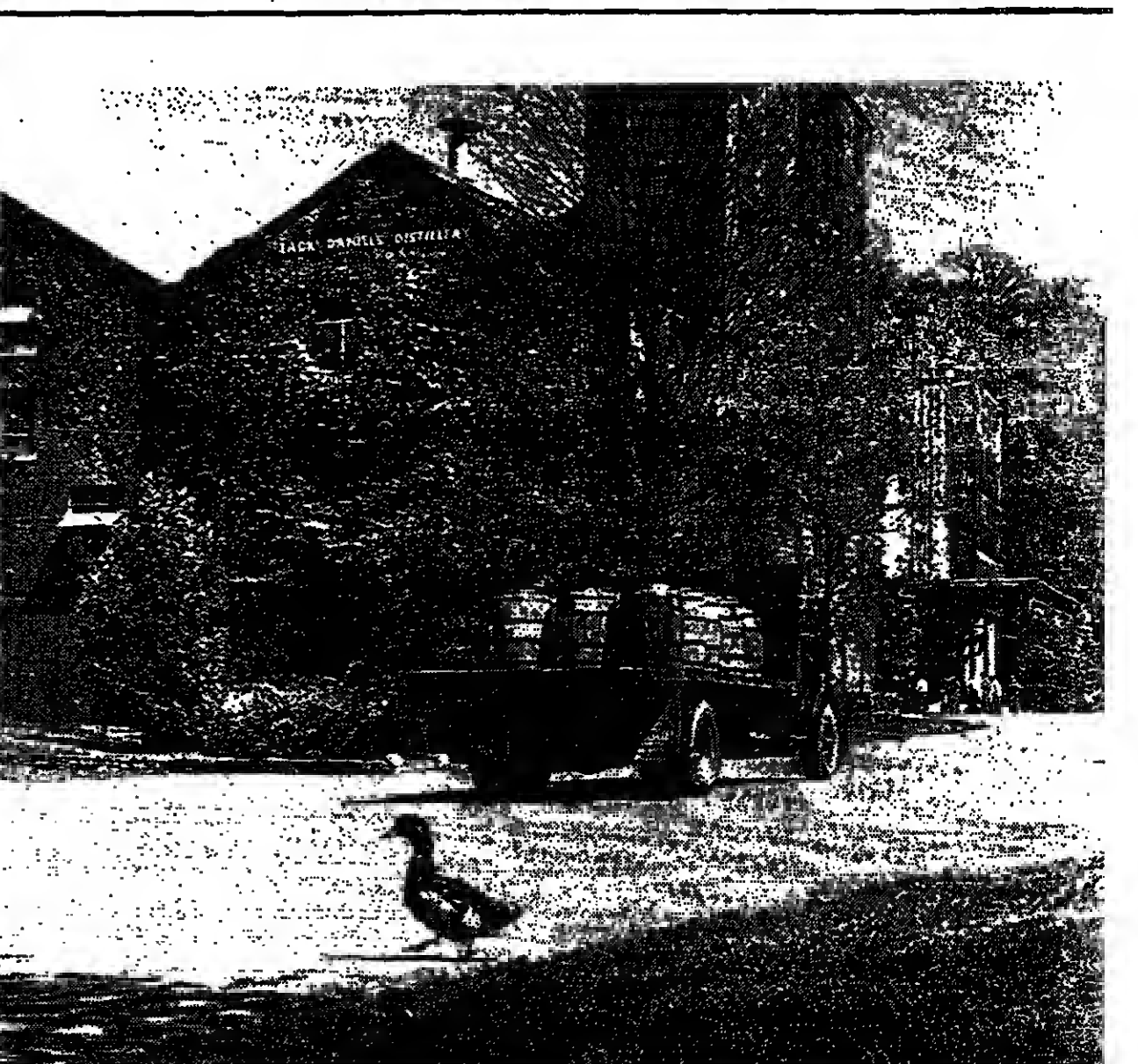
In various other parts of the world, Catholic priests and church workers are increasingly becoming victims of official persecution, whether as a result of having defied restrictions on their religious work or for having supported human rights campaigns.

In Romania, Father Janos Csilik has been interrogated and tortured for refusing to collaborate with the secret police. Severe hand injuries have led to him being kept in hospital.

In Chile, the Church's involvement in human rights has resulted in repeated persecutions of individual workers, who have been accused by the authorities of harbouring "terrorists" and of being "more communist than the communists".

This year the attacks on the Vicaria de la Solidaridad, a human rights group within the Church, have intensified. Mr Gustavo Villalobos, a lawyer, and Mr Ramiro Olivares, a doctor, have been arrested and charged with "assisting terrorists" after they had treated a man with bullet wounds.

In Brazil, a 33-year-old Catholic priest, Father Josimo Moraes Tavares, was shot in the back and died earlier this year, while pastoral workers, nuns and priests have received death threats. The Catholic workers had been investigating land disputes in their region.



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THE ARTS 2

سكنة من الاجل

Glorious flexibility

CONCERTS

Philharmonia/Haitink Festival Hall

There is at least one happy side-effect of Bernard Haitink's new Royal Opera responsibilities...

The Philharmonia, for instance, is a very different orchestral animal from Haitink's former charge...

It was not too fanciful to hear in these gloriously vile performances of Brahms's Serenade No 1 and the Fourth Symphony...

Strength - a tense muscularity that was never hard-driven yet which galvanized even passages usually thought

Prometheus Ensemble Purcell Room

We probably have the Nash Ensemble to thank for inspiring the formation of several young flexible chamber groups...

And it was the Nash Ensemble's playing that the Prometheus most readily brought to mind...

Weir's Sketches From A Bagpiper's Album, for string trio, "was inspired by the life of James Reid, a bagpiper in Bonnie Prince Charlie's Jacobite Army...

Such an explanation invites speculation that it might be a work with a sombre outlook; not so, instead, its three short, evocatively titled movements seem almost whimsical in flavour.

The declamatory first, "Salute", is dominated by drones implied and real and

of as "repose" - was indeed a foremost quality.

Most conductors wade dutifully through the puddingy textures of the Adagio as deftly as they can. Haitink illuminated the very multiplicity of detail, constantly shifting the emphasis to different instrumental sections.

The power harnessed in the Symphony was of quite a different order. All seemed channelled towards the passacaglia's tragedy, so that even the implicit resignation of the opening string sequences inevitably (but with subtly varied degrees of abruptness) gave way to aggression and conflict.

In this scheme the central movements offered different kinds of relief. The Andante was shaped into an intense expression of sorrow, with the Philharmonia strings (exposed to their occasional discomfort by one or two of the lesser known corners of the Serenade earlier) producing some fine tone. The third movement was a glorious burst of energy, brassy and ebullient.

So when Haitink presented the passacaglia's opening as a series of hammer-stroke sforzandos, with an almost Mahlerian emphasis on a chilling muted-horn sound, it was like the brutal cutting of a lifeline. Some tenderly-shaped flute and clarinet solos, and a noble blend of bassoons and trombones in their mournful variation, only temporarily soothed this tempestuous drive to a savage conclusion.

Richard Morrison

by parallel open fifths which transport us back, I fear, rather too many centuries, while the "nocturne", played with notes on, is fractured and syncretized. The final "lament, over the sea" is purely and simply a calm Lied dominated by the cello.

One has a feeling that these attractive miniatures ought to lead to something larger. Perhaps one day they will, but meanwhile we can enjoy Weir's sensitive textures and admire her direct, strongly tonal manner, while also relishing, with a slightly non-plussed smile, the charming naivety with which she uses the "Scotch snap" to evoke the sense of place.

The trio that form the kernel of this ensemble gave an admirably assured performance, as with Richard Black they did of Mozart's Flute Quartet, K285, and the same composer's Oboe Quartet, K370, where Julia Girwood's oboe playing was full of spacious phrasing and delicious tonal nuances. Beethoven's Septet, Op20, on the other hand, although it was technically well up to the mark, suffered sometimes from a little heaviness in the rhythm. It is, in any case, a work that can easily outstay its welcome.

Stephen Pettitt



In the Falklands: Reece Dinsdale and Leslee Udwin

Southern comfort

THEATRE

Woundings Royal Exchange, Manchester

Jeff Noon tells us that the idea for this play came to him after reading that the ratio of men to eligible women in the Falklands was 200 to 1, and that a campaign was afoot to put the boys out of their misery by encouraging women to emigrate and "forge a new life".

It didn't happen, and the very idea of aircraft disgorging hordes of randy girls hoping to get lucky with the standing army belongs to the world of Carry On films. This is not Mr Noon's world; and he pressed on with the play by turning the Falklands into an imaginary island full of locations with names like Mount Starapel, the Bullet Field, and the Woundings.

It was the kind of fantasy territory for which the Royal Exchange - in past productions of Gerald McLarnon and Russel Hoban - has shown itself to have a soft spot.

The play duly carried off third prize in the Theatre's Mobil Competition, and Gregory Hersov's production coincides with the publication which launches the new Birmingham based company of Oberon Books.

Woundings is designed as an elemental tragedy involving conflict between military discipline and various forms of freedom. It is easy to say that as these tragic abstractions have been allowed to

flourish at the expense of particular human detail.

There is a story, in which three of the girls pair off with variously unhappy fates. Doug, the most regimental, gets blown up by a mine after ditching a local girl, Jimmy (Reece Dinsdale), torn between discipline and love, resolves matters by shooting his girlfriend (Leslee Udwin). Stan goes through a military marriage service giving straight-faced answers to questions like "Wilt thou, Private Stanley Jardine, have this woman to be thy wounded wife?"

Meanwhile the islanders, armed with rakes and pitchforks, are prowling around the minefields as a volunteer defence force liable at any moment to turn into marauding guerrillas. It is Cold Comfort Farm in the South Atlantic.

Dialogue consists mainly of bursts of long-winded telegraphic characters into a sequence of stereotype situations. If love takes place out of doors, the lovers talk of the stars; if a girl is lying sick in bed, another leans solicitously over her saying "Don't try to talk."

Mr Hersov's production goes all out for violence. Instead of passionate writing we get exploding mines and gunfire, unmotivated brawls, deafening percussion, screaming orders, and lots of mood music and wild sea waves. With no characters to play, the cast are not match for all this; though there are physically commanding performances from Brendan Price and Maggie Saunders.

Irving Wardle

Black satire bites back

NEW YORK THEATRE

Ever the entrepreneur to make the numbers add up his way, Joseph Papp is producing fewer shows this season at the Public Theater due to renovations, but has opened with a demonstration that Less is More. The Colored Museum is a satirical revue whose bite is as keen as its bark. Perhaps author George C. Wolfe, a 32-year-old black making his New York mainstream debut, ought to wear a sign, "Beware of Dog."

"Git on Board," the first of eleven sketches, features an effervescent stewardess in hot pink miniskirt uniform aboard the Celebrity Slave Ship. With non-stop perkiness, Danitra Vance demonstrates how to use a "Fasten Shackles" sign, offers treats to passengers and reassures them that after a few hundred years of suffering: "Just think of what you're going to mean to William Faulkner."

As written and played, the sketch is hilarious and painful, an authentic clash of emotions which extends throughout the show's ninety minutes, though most sketches need tightening and their quality varies. All are played with gusto by Miss Vance, Loretta Devine, Tommy Hollis, Reggie Montgomery and Vickilyn Reynolds.

L. Kenneth Richardson's production is stylish and imaginative, with stunning tableaux as players and set pieces revolve on and off a white curved setting which suggests a stark modern museum. Slide projections of black history contribute to the emotional impact.

The centerpiece of The Colored Museum, literally and psychologically, is "The Last Mama-on-the-Couch Play", in which the author satirizes "A Raisin in the Sun". Lorraine Hansberry's 1959 Broadway drama whose recent Off Broadway revival confirmed its stature as a hallmark for black theatre artists and a high point in American theatre history. As soon as the



Squeezing the pips out of "A Raisin in the Sun": Danitra Vance, Vickilyn Reynolds

couch holding Mama holding an oversized Holy Bible appears, you know that all sacred cows are up for milking, and sure enough the sketch manages to send up not only "Raisin in the Sun" but a whole range of black musicals. The Colored Museum examines our ideas and feelings about what it means to be black with aggressive, affectionate, compassionate humour.

The arrival of such an impressive new writer early in the season is complemented by other developments which suggest that black theatre may be enjoying a renaissance of recognition by the white theatrical establishment. The Colored Museum is Off Broadway's newest hit, but Lonette McKee as Billie Holiday in a drama with music, Lady Day at Emerson's Bar and Grill is also in for a run, and this spring August Wilson's new play Fences starring

James Earl Jones, comes to Broadway. In Off Broadway theatres playing to racially mixed audiences but devoted to developing black talent, there are also engrossing shows.

Blues for A Gospel Queen (Billie Holiday Theatre) is a biography of Mahalia Jackson, chronicling her struggle to find acceptance singing the Lord's music (gospel) rather than the devil's (blues) and her personal disappointments. Combining such familiar songs as "We Shall Over Come" with original music by John Lewis and lyrics and book by Don Evans, the show is three solid hours of melody and melodrama. Kathi Walker is a commanding Mahalia, and in the supporting cast Cliff Hadden's dancing gives new meaning to the phrase "movers and shakers."

Holly Hill

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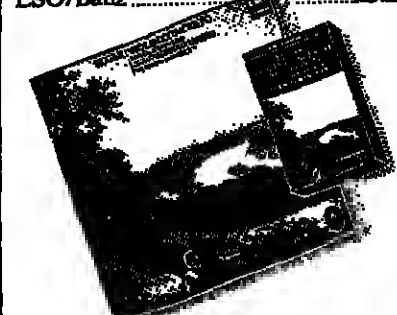
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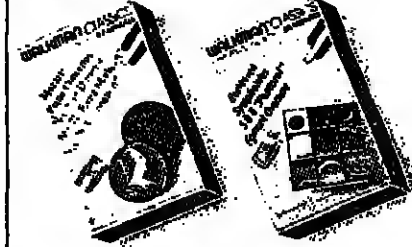
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Money out of Africa

Karen Blixen died 25 years ago, but a single film has made her into a Danish cult figure

The world-wide success of Sydney Pollack's Oscar-winning film Out of Africa based on the experiences in Karen Blixen's book is a tribute to the Danish writer.

As a result, the Rungstedlund Farmhouse in the Blixen estate in Copenhagen, built in 1847 from impending ruin, is now a museum.

Sons and stinging invective

Dennis Potter's controversial serial The Singing Detective raises once again the vexed question of the mother's role in literature, especially modern drama. Libby Purves examines this complex relationship and asks why the pen becomes a sword when the nest is flown

What is it about playwrights and mothers? I ask because although Dennis Potter's uneasy masterpiece, The Singing Detective, is about a lot of things, last Sunday's controversial episode brought into sharp focus the issue of a son's feelings about his mother.

When Potter's Philip Marlowe, in his hospital bed, remembers the childhood pain of perching in a tree and spotting his mother in woodland adultery, a powerful sense of betrayal screams from the text. Autobiographical or not, the episode was strong and savage in its portrayal of the boy's bewildered blaming of his young wartime mother. Having read the script, I can tell you that relations between them do not soften much

in episodes four to six. So taking that and a few other literary incidents into consideration, one might be forgiven for thinking that any woman with an eye on her future reputation would be well-advised not to let any of her little sons have a toy theatre this Christmas. If we really don't want to know what the lady think of us, we should clearly discourage all literary activities.

Since writers are merely successful, hardworking people who happen to have a talent for expressing the forces of human nature, the question broadens out: what is it about successful men and their mothers? Why do feelings run so high? Why is it that, as another playwright, Bernard Shaw, said: "Of all human struggles there is none so treacherous and remorseless as that between



Sons and mothers: Dennis Potter (left), and Alison Steadman and Lyndon Davies, who play Mrs Marlowe and Philip in the series

the artist man and the mother woman? A good guru on the subject seemed to be Fay Weldon: out only a powerful writer on the curious relations between men and women, but the most omnivorous reader I know. And, as it happens, a mother. Despite her reputation for plumbing murky depths, she was not inclined to plunge straight into psychosexual analysis. It was, she said, largely a matter of class.

"If you think of writers, they are generally socially-mobile people. John Osborne came to write for, and mix with, a certain class of people, the intelligentsia if you like. His mother remains a proof of his origin, a very intimate proof. A bright lad with aspirations generally wants to get away from everything that his mother

represents. Sometimes you even find writers who are socially mobile downwards - like Colin McInnes, who couldn't stand his mother, because she was a 'lady', I suppose."

In the Twenties and Thirties, she added, "it was very fashionable to hate your parents. Actually, in Australia right now, people are still doing it and talking about it. It's to do with escaping from your background - for example, Catholic-Irish-hard-working-poor-respectable - and being a new, modern, free man."

But why do these escapers resent their mothers most, though, and why do successful sons of perfectly reasonable mothers so often seem to hide them more assiduously than they

ensure the divorce of a boy from the unwholesome, retarding company of Mum. Potter, though, was exploring a darker area of the relationship. Little Philip sits in his tree, seeing his mother and her lover; as the stage-direction says: "He is not totally sure about what is going on, but his face shows that he knows it is frightening and illicit... there is some receding laughter, of that distant, mysterious, half-heard order which is always the most difficult to deal with... out of Philip's reach - and yet it is there, threateningly, the worse for being increasingly far off."

The child is not only horrified by the combative appearance of sexual intercourse but he is thwarted by being at a distance. "It is" said a psychotherapist who found the programme true to

many of his male patients' nightmares, "one of the most appalling things for a boy child, to see his mother being dominated and transported like this. Even by his father."

Fay Weldon, herself a formidable television playwright, agrees. "All of us work hard to avoid that crossover between the maternal and the erotic, with a boy. So we pose as non-sexual beings, quite deliberately. Therefore it is very difficult for a boy to accept, later, that his mother is a sexual being."

It was not ever thus. I have always been puzzled that David Copperfield never blamed his feeble little mother for landing him with Mr and Miss Murstone and a frightful life thereafter. She remained, as Victorian mothers in novels tend to remain, a beloved, angelic, innocent figure. "Well," says Fay Weldon tartly. "These women were just that. They were seen by their sons as weak, Christ-like martyrs because they actually were victims: totally dependent on men, and likely to die in childbirth when they were still young."

It was not until our century that mother became what Germaine Greer so sweetly called "the dead heart of the family, spending father's earnings on consumer goods". We are a lot easier to despise, now. But the very strength of the contempt, when it arises, is an unwilling proof of love. We should perhaps be gentle when our sons despise us, and try not to remind them of the awful truth: that they cannot get away, and that that is why they try so hard.

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New head for Saint Bob's halo

The stereotyped image of the female charity worker, all sensible clothes and selfless good works, is shattered instantly by Penny Jenden. Slim and attractive, with black lace tights, dangling silver earrings and chipped red nail polish, she can be juggling figures with the best financial brains in the business one minute, poring over the minutiae of bee-keeping in Sudan the next, and still find time to argue her corner with Bob Geldof in a vocabulary as earthy as his.

"My kids get sick to death of Africa and me harping on about how that would be enough to feed a family. They tell me to stop nagging and give up smoking. Think of all the money you waste on cigarettes," she says with a laugh.

A 36-year old anthropologist who mixes street credibility with a mind like a steel trap, Penny Jenden is the executive director of the Band Aid Trust and the brain which oversees the spending of the £70m raised so far.

She feels she has had to be extremely tough with Band Aid's cash. "This is very special money, very precious money because a lot of it came from a group of people who had never given before."

"Kids are out walking around tormented by African famine - they went to the concert or Ran The World



As Bob Geldof prepares to lower his Band Aid profile, Liz Gill meets the woman who will carry on the good work

because these things were fun. They must not be allowed to sit back and think, 'Well, we gave it to Band Aid and they screwed it up', so we're extra, extra cautious."

For nearly two years, ever since she put her near-completed PhD thesis on ice and volunteered her services, Penny Jenden has been Bob Geldof's key back-room figure - bossing and bullying, advising and charming. Initially she joined via her architect husband Kevin, who, racked by what he had seen on television and memories of his own Red Cross work in Africa, stepped forward with his skills.

As the money poured in and the ideals took concrete form, Penny became the vital link between the evaluation committee, which recommends which projects should get the cash, and the trustees, who have the final word.

From the beginning one of Band Aid's guiding principles has been that it was no good

simply pouring money into short-term care, however heart-rending the need. If lives were to be saved in the future and Africa to get back on its feet, the greater proportion must go on long-term aid.

"Long-term aid might not be as dramatic as emergency assistance, but there can be profound ramifications for people's lives", says Jenden.

At her office in London's West End she has list after list of what it means in reality: from the largest grant, \$500,000 for a major start-from-scratch programme, to the smallest, \$4,000 for a water pump. Tackling the problem in such a real way brings incalculable satisfaction. "I went into Sudan on one of the first flights taking in these special biscuits which are like shortbread but which contain enough calories to keep a child alive for one day."

"We went to a camp where the children were really in a terrible state and finding it difficult even to eat the gruel

that was being given as the supplementary food. We gave them the biscuits and as I watched them hold them in their hands and suck on them, I felt a great sense of gratification because I knew those biscuits were there because of my efforts."

Much of Jenden's life has been spent straddling two worlds. As the daughter of a master mariner she spent part of her childhood and adolescence in Africa and India.

"I always suffer greater culture shock coming back here. For example in India nothing ever gets thrown away and on one level you think 'isn't that nice'. But of course it's because people are so bloody poor that there's no waste."

"I always start off intending to take bottles to the bottle bank and papers to be recycled, but in the end I never do. It does go against the grain to throw food in the bin but when you're a working mother (she has two sons aged 15 and 12 and a four-year-old daughter) that's the way it goes. You buy food and then you have to chuck it because something's cropped up."

Penny Jenden is paid £10,000 a year - "Bob wanted us all to work for nothing for ever but you can't go on like that" - and will stay as long as she's needed.



Jenden: doing good isn't all Laura Ashley and brown rice

Her job has taught her, she says, a healthy cynicism about professionals but also a great optimism. "I know now that people can change history."

"It took Bob to start it off but at the end of the day people thought they could do something, too. They realized that you didn't have to wear Laura Ashley and eat brown rice to do a bit of good. You could be your own person, do your own thing and give a bit

of money and it was valid." The job has had its more frivolous compensations. "When Bob was knighted he had a party at the Hard Rock Cafe and I met Mick Jagger. I remember my dad thumping me as a kid for saying I fancied him. It was a childhood dream come true. I said to Bob, 'I can resign my job tomorrow now because I've fulfilled my life-long ambition'."

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From Mrs Annette MacInnre, Hillhead, Glasgow

TALKBACK

David Leitch's article on Tracing The Path To Long Lost Parents (Wednesday Page, November 26), has a quote from do-gooder Ariel Bruce about her work in helping adopted children find their parents: "there can be cruel and hurtful rejection, and they are extraordinarily sad. But even when it doesn't work out, I've never heard anyone say they wish they hadn't done it."

How many adoptive parents has she spoken to? If Ariel Bruce had any idea of the hurt and disappointment caused when a fickle teenager decides that he whimsically fancies his "real" parents, she would feel much less self-satisfied. There are two sides to every story; she would do well to consider that before weighing in to the often delicate balance of family life.

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BRIEFLY A round-up of news, views and information

Toddling to fame Keeping an 18-month-old toddler entertained is enough to test any mother's imagination - but after a trip to the zoo with son Joseph, 28-year-old Barbara Dewar's imagination quite ran away with her. She and her husband Ted had the brainwave of creating an illustrated account of the outing, with the pages laced together with bootlaces. The rapturous response of their friends (not to mention Joseph) prompted them to publish a series of stories written especially for the boy, such as "Joseph and the Jumble" and "Joseph Chooses Paint".

Quote me... "Feminism has gone too far, too fast. It is not as happy for women as they imagined it to be and it is particularly sad because if the race is to go on, women will have to marry and have children. It's that simple. Or they will have children but turn them over to the state - which reduces them to a far worse state than they were in when the feminist revolution began" - Clare Booth Luce, author of The Women.

Play cookery The Cooking Game is probably this Christmas's most delicious board game: a race to concoct dinner-party menus from beautifully photographed ingredient cards for recipes compiled by gourmet Jane Grigson (and featured in full in an accompanying guide. In case you actually want to cook the dishes). It costs £14.95 from stockists including W.H. Smith, John Lewis and good toy shops; but alas, you won't find any leftovers in the fridge next day.

Aids aid The growing number of Aids antibody positive women now have a shoulder to lean on: the National Support Group for Women with HIV Infection. Its helpline number is 01-833-2971 and it operates Mondays to Fridays 7-10 pm, 3-10 pm at weekends. Send a

Tanstopppers Winter sports become ever more popular - yet having a tan (at any time of the year) is increasingly unfashionable. In response, Boots System 1

range now offers three very inexpensive moisturising products designed to stop faces trying in the snow-reflected glare and protecting, too, against chill winds. Fragrance-free and ideal for sensitive skiers' skins, Ultra-Protective Ski Cream (£2.25), Protective Action Ski Cream Sun Filter 4 (£1.95) and Ultra-Protective Ski Salve (£1.15) can be found in Boots branches nationwide. Should stop the blisters in Klostors...

Just pup in Keeping a dog is incompatible with many people's lifestyle - so what about sponsoring one instead? A donation to the National Canine Defence League will go towards the feeding and upkeep of a particular animal - they'll send you a picture of the bowser and if you live near the kennels you can even visit, to take him for walks. For details about this new way of expressing your puppy love, write to Steve Goody, Code 203, NDCL, 1 Pratt Mews, London NW1 0AD.

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THE TIMES DIARY

All the old intelligence

Peter Wright is not the only former British intelligence officer the authorities would like to silence. After publication of Freeman and Penrose's Conspiracy of Silence...

A singularly inappropriate inclusion on Marks and Spencer's new range of so-called exotic fruit...

Loyalist

Sir Alan Goodison, who has just stepped down as ambassador to Dublin, will not be sitting down at a typewriter to give his side of the Hillsborough agreement...

Tory Nicholas Winterton is leading a group of MPs who have asked W H Smith not to stock Comic Relief - the Christmas Book...

Washed away

Tory vets are ruing the appearance of newspaper reports last week revealing their plan to take over the backbench Education Committee...

BARRY FANTONI



Seriously, Sid

That tedious character being employed by British Gas to promote its interests is even more ubiquitous than I had feared. Pick up a copy, as I did the other day, of Kazuo Ishiguro's novel An Artist of the Floating World...

The limit

Radio Moscow, peddling the dubious line of Aids having been concocted by mad scientists to a military lab to the United States...

Danse macabre

The current Phantoms contains an unusual advertisement from a video firm. Among the 99 titles on sale - most are 'strictly adult only' - a small section is dedicated to Music and General Entertainment...

Ivan Boesky's deal with the US regulatory authorities to provide information on his insider share dealing activities to ensure a light prison sentence threatens sleepless nights on both sides of the Atlantic...

Now Boesky's shadow has fallen on Guinness, which became one of Britain's biggest companies after the acrimonious takeover of Distillers, which dominates the Scotch whisky industry...

In the City, there is little doubt. For Boesky was a major stock market player during the battle with James Gulliver's Argyll group for control of Distillers.

On Wall Street Boesky is 'King of the Arbs', the term deriving

This autumn has had a particular fascination for students of British electoral behaviour. Labour's opinion poll lead has disappeared. Largely because of a sudden erosion of Alliance support...

The pound and the stock market responded quickly to the shift. So did Mrs Thatcher, who visibly slipped into one of her euphoric 'I-as-a-government' moods...

Almost immediately, however, we settled down to a more normal diet of City and spy scandals. The Tory lead vanished and Labour were back in first place...

Since 1951, the Liberal vote has risen under Tory governments as disaffected Tory voters drifted towards the middle; under a Labour government the Liberal vote has declined as anti-Labour voters rallied to the Tories.

By the 1960s and '70s, with the Liberals attracting greater support, this meant that Labour could even win elections despite a declining share of the vote...

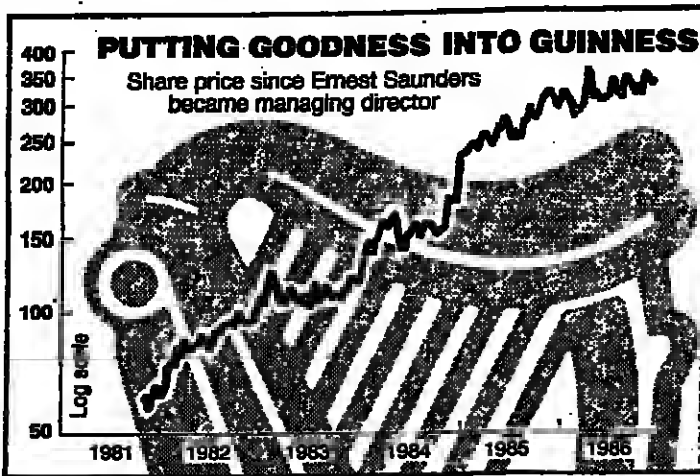
At first the birth of the Alliance seemed only to magnify this trend. But the Alliance, fortified by its Tory gains, could now appear as a credible alternative to Labour too...

Note the asymmetrical billiard ball effect: the Alliance first struck the Tories a terrible blow, then dealt Labour a similar blow, but then itself took a heavy blow from the Tories...

Once the 1983 election was over Labour rapidly regained - in the polls at least - most of the votes it had lost to the Alliance in 1983...

At this point the 1986 conference season intervened, and with it the defence issue. It is worth noting that the Labour conference's reiteration of its own unilateralist policy did the party no harm at all...

A time bomb was ticking away,



from arbitrage - one who buys shares in takeover stocks in a calculated gamble on a higher offer. The DTI will neither confirm nor deny that its inspectors are looking at purchases and sales of both Guinness and Argyll shares on the basis of information provided via the Boesky tapes.

A DTI investigation into a company is a very serious - and comparatively rare - event. In the case of Guinness, the inspectors were sent in under a section of the Act giving them wide powers of investigation...

The inspectors can examine all the company's books and documents as well as those held by other people - such as its professional advisers. That is why on Monday the inspectors moved simultaneously on both Guinness and Morgan Grenfell...

Perhaps the inspectors' most important power will be to question, on oath, anyone they think could help them with their investigation. This would catch anyone relevant to the inquiry - Guinness, not just the directors of

Anyone who refuses to co-operate, for instance by remaining silent, risks being to contempt of court.

The evidence of a link between Wall Street and Guinness is at the moment only circumstantial. The information came from the American SEC. Last Thursday the government bought into effect new powers in the Financial Services Act which would allow it to return the favour...

There are two crucial aspects to the Boesky case. He will name names. The bigger the name, the more likely he will be treated leniently by the US authorities. But what has really shaken Wall Street is that part of his cooperation with the SEC included tape recording conversations and filming his interviews with other market operators.

In fact before Boesky moved to his offices about 20 months ago he got workers to install tape recording and video equipment. When the SEC caught up with him all he had to do was to keep the cameras and tapes running.

John Bell and Lawrence Lever

R.W. Johnson outlines the high-risk gambles as the election approaches

Defence: when will Kinnock beat a retreat?



However, to the shape of David Owen's rejection of the agreed Alliance statement on defence: had Owen accepted this statement there is little doubt that the anodyne policy it enunciated would have sailed unproblematically through both SDP and Liberal conferences...

How deliberate was the Owen bluff? It is apparent enough that the true disaster for Owen would be a Labour victory and that he has, for some time, been trying to create a rationale for an Alliance-Tory coalition. No doubt he would have preferred to haul the Liberals towards a pro-nuclear stance, but he must have calculated the consequences of that failing too...

The larger question is whether the Alliance will hurt the Tories or Labour most at the next election. On past form, the former should be the more likely, but events of the past few months suggest that the 'freak' effect of 1983 could be repeated if defence can be made a passable substitute for the Falklands. Labour seems certain to do better next time than it did in 1983, so the Alliance would need

Owen's imperious style of leadership had a thunderous ratchet. Having started by shooting himself in the foot, his bullet then hit the Liberals and Labour too.

Indeed, the rise of three-party politics means that every party leader is now playing at higher risk for bigger stakes. In the main, our politicians are not suited to it. Owen is the only natural gambler, first to leaving Labour and then running against Roy Jenkins for the SDP leadership. Now he is gambling with defence to lever an unhappy David Steel into a coalition stance with the Tories.

The real mystery is Kinnock. His youthful accession to the Labour leadership was the result of a series of successful gambles, and he has occasionally shown the same penchant since (his shouting match with George Shultz, for example). He has seemed somewhat alarmed, however, by his own risk-taking and has often backed down under pressure. Much of the time - as during the miners' strike, and over mortgage tax relief - he has seemed a cautious, even pedestrian example of a Labour leader. With him, one senses, things could always go either way, and of all the leaders he has the biggest gambles to take. The author is a fellow of Magdalen College, Oxford.

Japan in search of a jobless cure

In a country where more than a third of the workforce is accustomed to the security of life-time employment, the Japanese must be disturbed by the recent rise to unemployment.

In an interim report released earlier this week, the Meakawa Commission, which published its blueprint for restructuring the Japanese economy in April, again called on the government to expand the growth potential in the domestic economy. This, it said, was essential to help Japan reduce its dependence on exports as the major source of economic growth.

It also said that economic restructuring was required to help offset the increased redundancies by manufacturers of exported goods, who are suffering because of the 40 per cent appreciation of the yen over the past year. This is the first time in Japan's post-war history that an official government body has made such a policy statement on unemployment.

A series of redundancy announcements in October by such household names as Mitsubishi, Hitachi, Isuzu and

Nippon Steel, and the inevitability of major lay-offs in coal mining over the next five years, the Japanese have suddenly realized that their ability to escape the unemployment problems associated with most other advanced industrial economies could be coming to an end.

On the surface, Japanese unemployment figures do not look that disturbing. According to government statistics, only 2.8 per cent of the workforce is unemployed - slightly less than the 2.9 per cent record for the entire post-war period. But the official figures considerably underestimate the full extent of unemployment.

According to some economists, if the Japanese conducted their labour force surveys in the same way as the United States or Western Europe, the unemployment figure would be somewhere between 4 and 6 per cent - roughly two million people.

Ironically, Yasuhiro Nakasone's government may be able to use the growing anxiety over unemployment to its advantage. Over the

past few years it has been under intense pressure from Japan's major trading partners to bring the country's burgeoning trade surpluses under control. But many foreign critics have expressed profound scepticism that the measures so far introduced by Nakasone will lead to any appreciable reduction to Japan's external imbalances.

Nonetheless the Japanese have made significant efforts in this direction, despite concerted opposition to change from established, mostly bureaucratic, interests. Nakasone's commitment to accept a coordinated appreciation of the yen is only one example.

Other industrialized countries, already accustomed to the decline of their manufacturing industries, have expanded the service sector to provide new jobs. But the downturn in Japanese manufacturing has occurred so quickly that the country has been caught off guard, and seems unlikely to be able to generate sufficient jobs to take up the slack.

Unemployment is not some-

thing that the government can dismiss lightly. During their 40 years of postwar expansion, the Japanese have never had to deal with the political and social problems generated by unemployment that most Western countries have been struggling with for years. Moreover, because of Japan's aging population, all the young need to work to provide pensions for those reaching retirement age.

In drawing attention to the growth in unemployment, the Meakawa Commission has focused on the need to formulate new policies that can quickly be put into effect before unemployment gets out of hand. The powerful bureaucracies, which hitherto have impeded Nakasone's attempts to switch the source of economic growth from exports to domestic demand, are likely to prove more responsive to the need to generate new sources of employment than they have been to foreign pressure to increase imports.

Michael Dynes

Roger Scruton

Communism and all that jazz

Totalitarian governments are increasingly reluctant to subject their critics to political trials, which attract too much attention in the West and thwart the policy of image-building. Instead, the habit has developed of charging political offenders with 'economic crimes'. By a large, the tactic has been successful, and the astonishing increase in recent years to the number of Soviet citizens executed for economic 'corruption' has either aroused no comment in the western press or has been offered as further proof of Gorbachov's tough, reforming liberalism.

The policy has also been adopted in the Soviet satellites, and is well illustrated by the case of the Jazz Section of the Czech Musicians' Union, a case which is decisive for our understanding of post-Helsinki Europe. Jazz has played an important part in the development of modern Czech culture, both directly, through the jazz clubs of prewar Prague, and indirectly, through poetry, the theatre of Burian, the music of Martinu and the novels of Skvorecky and Kundera.

Founded in 1971, at a time when the 'counter-revolutionary forces' of the brief Dubcek era were being 'liquidated', the Jazz Section rapidly became the focus of renewed aspirations towards light, air, freedom and a cosmopolitan culture. Its official membership increased to the permitted maximum of 7,000; through its journal, Jazz Bulletin, it was to reach a further 100,000 enthusiasts.

These enthusiasts are not simply jazz lovers. Jazz, for them, is a symbol of all that communism denies, and a coveted link with the popular culture of America and the high culture of Europe. Making use of its legal privilege as a trade union, the Jazz Section began to publish memoranda for internal distribution: studies of modern art and literature, memoirs of Nazi concentration camps, and even an edition of Nietzsche's writings on Wagner. Under its auspices all kinds of events were held: exhibitions, lectures, discussions, concerts and festivals. For a while it seemed as though the tradition of the bezeda - the local discussion group which had played such an important part in the 19th century nationalist movement - was about to be revived.

In 1981 the authorities began to move against the section, banning its annual festival. The section thereupon joined the International Jazz Federation, hoping to buy security through the federation's membership of Unesco (an organization which is, from the communist point of view, distinctly 'comradely'). The Musicians' Union was then ordered to abolish the Jazz Section. Its council appealed, on the grounds that the Ministry of the Interior, which issued the order, had no power to abolish a cultural organization without evidence of subversive activity. (It is typical of the Kafkaesque atmosphere of modern Czechoslovakia that such

appeals must be addressed to a 'constitutional court' which has never, in fact, been constituted). Repeated letters to the ministry asking for an explanation of what the section had done wrong were left unanswered.

The authorities then raided the premises of the Jazz Section, seized its account books and destroyed them, simultaneously presenting the section with a tax bill (incredibly by Czech standards) for three million crowns. The members of the council were arrested on grounds of 'tax evasion', being now deprived of the evidence necessary for their defence.

Perhaps because the trick was too obvious, and too open to ridicule, the prosecuting lawyers have recently changed the charges. Six of the council members are now accused of running an illegal commercial enterprise, contrary to article 118 of the Criminal Code, while their chairman, Karel Srp, faces an additional charge of illegal financial dealings. Both charges carry a maximum eight-year sentence. The council members have a defence, for they have always acted within the law, and believed themselves to be legally constituted throughout the period when they waited in vain for a legal definition of their status.

Fortunately, the western press has seen through the official tactics, and recognized the trial of the Jazz Section as a fabrication. Disturbed by the western response, Rude Pravo recently carried an article criticizing 'instruments of the bourgeois media' (a label attached, amusingly, to The Guardian) for their 'meaningless, lying assertions.' And the Czech embassy in London has issued a press release affirming the guilt of the Jazz Section Council and stating that the section owes some five million crowns to tax arrears, and that its council has been arrested 'on the basis of this financial fraudulence.'

The interest of this document is twofold: first it gives, not the new charge against the Jazz Section, but the old one. Secondly, it assumes that the council members are guilty, come what may. The document is therefore a staggering admission that the members of the Jazz Section council are really political prisoners, as well as providing a wonderful testimony to the Czech government's legal incompetence. Not only does the state not bother to inform itself of the actual details of its own accusations; not only does it proclaim the guilt of the accused before they have been tried; it even incorporates this guilt, as an undisputed fact, into its foreign policy.

There is no better proof of the innocence of Karel Srp and his colleagues than this: that their guilt has been made axiomatic by a state which has so little respect for its own law that it is prepared to broadcast the outcome of a trial which has not even begun.

The author is editor of the Salisbury Review.

Paul Pickering

Home is where the angst is

When a stockbroker friend came around with a bowlful of goldfish and feeding instructions en route to a holiday to Barbados, he remarked how lucky I was to work at home. 'Reflection to tranquility, eh?', he said. 'Nothing to beat it.'

Immediately he left, my grandmother was the first to ring and to prove him wrong. She was most upset. 'Please promise me they won't have me put down like poor George V. I know you think I'm a silly, but if you have to go into hospital these days, those young doctors try all sorts of things on helpless old people's bodies.'

An hour later I had just about assured her that neither she, nor inflexed any of her favourite royals, was next in line for compulsory euthanasia, when the door 'phone buzzed.

'Plumber,' was the yell. For the next few hours an irrepressibly cheerful thug smashed my bathroom to atoms while playing Meatloaf on a ghetto-blaster. He then dashed my hopes as to whether he could build another with taste and artistry by admitting that he was once part of The City Firm; a band of West Ham supporters who stab people on trains.

Throughout the afternoon, Mr Plumber, for reasons best known to himself, began to sing the children's song, Muffin the Mule, as he mangled piping. There was another ring at the door: 'You have not paid your television licence,' announced an angry voice.

Downstairs were two men in turbans; one very small, while the other was the size of a pantomime genie. I said my set was broken. 'What do you all day if you don't have a television?' I tried to explain I was a writer. 'You are not a writer, and will be prosecuted, succeed the genie relaxing his grip on my shoulder just long enough to allow me to flee inside.

Back upstairs, the plumber had now fractured a waste pipe and gone in search of a bacon sandwich, leaving behind him a scene of destruction that would have made Action Directe envious.

After a brisk domestic discussion with my wife, ranging from bathroom design to divorce, a friend called to ask if I thought his looks could be improved with a toupee.

He was followed by my mother enquiring if I minded having underpants again for Christmas. The radio announced that on a London street a man had just produced a large snake from beneath his anorak and was taking it for a walk on a piece of string.

Sanity, not just tranquility, appeared to be on the run, and as madness prefers a sitting target, I went for a walk to the park. Ready and waiting to console me to the park café over a cappuccino was an unemployed lecturer. What I needed, it appeared, was a stiff dose of new, 100 per cent British Zen, or the Headless Way, as invented by Major Douglas Harding (Indian Army, rtd). Somehow desperate, I telephoned the major.

'Point to your face,' he commanded. 'Now if you cut out memory and imagination, you must admit you are pointing at nothing at all. We have all been walking about headless and not realized. We are only a space for the world to happen in. I made this discovery to 1943 in India. I looked down and there were my legs, my hands, my torso... my head was the Himalayas,' he said triumphantly. My head was still choc-a-bloc with vandalized bathrooms and turbaned ruffians from the BBC, or wherever.

By now the waste pipe water had leaked into the flat downstairs, with no sign of Mr Plumber returning from his bacon sandwich. The lady upstairs had caught a gerbil under a kitchen sieve and was accusing me of owning it. The major's theories began to make sense.

Why run around in a self-employed panic when, somewhere out there, is an organization happy to take you in, satisfy your every immediate need, has its own capable plumber - and electrician and decorator - and, if things still get on top of you, will refer you to the corporate psychoanalyst. Yes, if you really want peace of mind, get a job.





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JUDGING SECRETS

A problem that has plagued the Government's case in Sydney is that the central issue of principle has been obscured by the incidental revelations that have tumbled forth both inside and outside the courtroom.

Exactly what were Lord Rothschild's motives, for instance, in bringing over Mr Wright in 1981 at his own expense, introducing him to Mr Chapman Pincher and thus facilitating the publication of a book which broke the Official Secrets Act? We could hazard a number of guesses, among them that the noble Lord is an incurable busybody.

According to this account, it was Mr Wright who suggested that they cooperate on what became *Their Trade is Treachery* in which the central thesis is that Sir Roger Hollis was a KGB agent. Lord Rothschild wrote to Mr Pincher discouraging him from this line of inquiry.

Mr Kinnoch must face the question of whether he has behaved improperly in discussing the case with Mr Wright's Australian lawyer, Mr Malcolm Turnbull. His reply is that he was merely attempting to inform himself accurately about the court proceedings.

That must surely be an impropriety. It allows the charge to be made that he is colluding with Mr Turnbull in order to hamper the Government's conduct of the case and thus to derive political benefit from its loss.

The refusal of the BBC to allow the National Audit Office to examine the financial management of its External Services is understandable, but probably misguided.

The BBC, quite rightly, prizes its editorial independence - by which it means its editorial independence of government - above all else.

To equate editorial independence with financial independence, however, as the BBC appears to do, is to be captive to a delusion.

Leader of the Opposition to confidential intelligence briefings. That penalty is, however, too severe for an impropriety arising largely from inexperience.

Of the various charges against Mrs Thatcher and the Attorney-General, Sir Michael Havers, the allegation that they learnt of Mr Kinnoch's calls by bugging his telephone can be summarily dismissed as, indeed, Mr Kinnoch has dismissed it. It is almost inconceivable that Ministers would tap an Opposition Leader's telephone and utter incoherence that if they did, they would risk revealing such a damaging fact by leaking it to, of all people, a band of Tory backbenchers.

But the principal charge is that in the case of the Pincher-Wright book, the Prime Minister overrode Sir Michael's constitutional duty to determine prosecutions, and Sir Michael failed by not asserting his responsibility in the matter.

The legal thickets here are thick indeed. Sir Michael drew the distinction in the Commons on Monday between his independent role as a prosecutor in criminal matters, in which he brooks no influence from other Ministers, and his role as the nominal plaintiff in civil cases in which he acts for the Government as a whole.

But was there not a duty upon the four Ministers who did take the decision, as Labour argues, to draw the Attorney-General's attention to the fact that a criminal breach of the Official Secrets Act was about to occur?

The opposite decision was made in the case of Mr Wright's own book because there is a real distinction between a book by an outside journalist and one by a former MI5 official whose revelations are more plausible, more authoritative and thus more damaging.

service, it will become impossible to run an intelligence service at all.

Vital though this principle is, it was always going to be difficult to sustain it in an Australian Court. Democratic governments always look shifty and uncomfortable when they try to defend their secrets in public. Such activity prompts the question: Is national security the reason - or political embarrassment?

The Government was sustained in its decision to proceed against these risks by the assumption that Mr Wright's book was a betrayal of Australia's national security interest as well as of our own.

That question is raised by Mr Justice Powell's decision to release confidential British documents, somewhat censured, to the defence. The case against disclosure was based upon the British claim of "public interest immunity" and would certainly be sustained in a British court.

The Government seems certain to appeal and it is right to do so. If Australians are to determine whether publication of Mr Wright's book would be in the interests of their own national security, as seems eminently reasonable, the judgement of the federal government should surely carry greater weight than that of a state court judge.

If the appeal is lost, however, the Government will be faced with a hard decision. On the side of proceeding further will be the importance of the principle at stake; on the other side will lie the practical difficulty of sustaining it - a difficulty now intensified by the decision of an Irish court to allow publication of a similar book, *One Girl's War*, by the late Joan Miller.

It may well be that Ministers are committed to a principle that is both vital and impossible to defend effectively. Should that be so, the intelligence services would be seriously vulnerable to disturbed or greedy former officials. They do not have the Israeli option of simply kidnapping people like Mr Wright and returning them to British jurisdiction - nor, despite Mr Gough Whitlam's dark insinuations, of attempting still harsher penalties.

ACCOUNTS AND ACCOUNTABILITY

The BBC has defended its action on three grounds. First, it argues that the BBC is not covered by the remit of the National Audit Office, indeed, that it was specifically excluded from the office's value-for-money reviews.

The BBC's second defence is that the External Services are already undergoing economy and efficiency reviews led by outside management consultants in response to recommendations made in an earlier report (conducted jointly by the BBC, the Treasury and the Foreign Office). Until these reviews are complete, it argues, it is premature to start on a further scrutiny.

The BBC's third defence is that the External Services are already undergoing economy and efficiency reviews led by outside management consultants in response to recommendations made in an earlier report.

that the efficiency of the External Services and their credibility as a broadcasting organization are unrivalled. This is a mitigating factor, and it will be popular among BBC staff. But it is more an example of BBC-style defensiveness than a reason for refusing an NAO audit.

This does not mean that they should have to assess their efficiency in narrow statistical terms alone. The worldwide reputation of the BBC for veracity and impartiality is not statistically quantifiable. Nor is it possible even to estimate the number of listeners in countries where surveys are not permitted and listening to foreign radio stations is expressly discouraged.

So long as the National Audit Office realizes in advance how difficult a task it is to assess the effectiveness of the External Services, and how many "invisible" factors have to be taken into account, their officers should be welcome in Bush House. The BBC External Services have much to be proud of and their managers could be pleasantly surprised by the outcome.

Matters of conscience in spy case

From Mr M. B. Spencer Sir, Mr Malcolm Turnbull has defended his actions in speaking to Mr Kinnoch on the telephone about what had taken place in court in the case of Attorney General v Wright, saying that what he did was ethical and justifiable.

Whatever may actually have been said, the appearance given by such a conversation taking place is highly unfortunate. As Mr Turnbull knows (or ought to know) the purpose of Mr Kinnoch in raising him was to gain information for possible use against the British Government in Parliament: such parliamentary proceedings could influence the Government's conduct in that case, to the possible advantage of Mr Turnbull's client if, for example, the decision were taken to discontinue the proceedings.

The appearance given is therefore of Mr Turnbull aiding and abetting the bringing of extrajudicial pressure upon a party to an action in which he is involved. No lawyer in this country would place himself in such a potentially embarrassing position and I cannot believe the situation is any different in Australia.

The fact is that Mr Turnbull is not running a news agency, and is under no obligation to provide information about any case in which he is a protagonist. For him to do so to a person in Mr Kinnoch's position during the continuance of the proceedings compromises Mr Turnbull's position as an advocate in those proceedings.

Yours faithfully, MARTIN SPENCER, 4 Paper Buildings, Temple, EC4, December 1.

From Mr Michael Rubinstein Sir, Who would have understood from your main front page headline (November 29) - "Havers forces MI5 about-turn" - that, as the following report made clear, Sir Michael had only insisted upon the correction of misleading allegations given on oath by Sir Robert Armstrong, for which Sir Robert promptly apologised to the New South Wales court?

The headline implied that MI5 has acceded to pressure from Sir Michael to do a U-turn - something he would of course never have demanded of MI5.

The humiliation suffered by both Sir Michael and Sir Robert in this extraordinary affair could surely not result from a decision, however misguided, to discourage

future breaches by Civil Servants of the oaths of secrecy by which they are supposedly bound for life. It seems to be directed rather by the fear that Civil Servants may be tempted to draw attention to misguided or corrupt actions of the ministers they are there to serve, or to any attempt at a cover-up.

In the absence of a confidential outlet for a Civil Servant's sincere concern in the nation's interest - as he sees it, inevitably, subjectively - then on occasion he will break his oath and protest publicly.

A Civil Servant's right to resign, with the continuing obligation to remain silent, will not assuage the dictates of conscience nor should a minister have the right to hide incompetence or to protect or further his party's interests against the national interest behind a Civil Servant's traditional loyalty.

It is self-evident that Sir Robert has been set an impossible task. Those who sent him on this thankless mission, whoever they may be, are an trial in New South Wales. Lord Rothschild, Peter Wright, Chapman Pincher and Neil Kinnoch are red herrings, of various hues, in a murky sea.

Yours faithfully, MICHAEL RUBINSTEIN, 2 Raymond Buildings, Gray's Inn, WCI.

Where the truth lies

From Lady Home of the Hiresel Sir, Following on the correspondence about Sir Robert Armstrong's "economy with the truth" (November 27), my mother - the polisher of people, who would never call anyone a liar - once referred to "your friend who has rather an open mind as to fact".

Yours sincerely, ELIZABETH HOME, The Hiresel, Coldstream, Berwickshire.

From Mr T. W. Preston, QC Sir, A more accurate attribution of Sir Robert Armstrong's phrase than that suggested by Mr E. P. Wilson (November 27) is surely to be found in *The Irish R. M.*, by Somerville and Ross.

In the story "Tricker's Colt", Flurry Knox has stolen the Colt from his grandmother, and when she arrives to tax him with the theft he is recorded as "not shrinking from that economy of truth that the situation required".

Yours faithfully, T. W. PRESTON, 2 Temple Gardens, Temple, EC4.

Better use of research in farming

From Dr Brian J. Legg Sir, I was alarmed that your article, "Research that goes against the grain" (November 27), promoted the naive view that agricultural research should stop because we have food surpluses.

British farmers are facing stiff competition from overseas and other countries, and if they do not improve efficiency and produce food at prices that are steadily decreasing in real terms they will simply go out of business.

One good example is tomato production, where the price paid to growers remained steady for ten years while the cost of fuel to heat the greenhouses increased fourfold. We could not prevent progress abroad, and unless our growers had taken advantage of scientific research and doubled their yield per hectare they would no longer be selling tomatoes.

Just for the record, the widespread myth that illustrated the article has nothing to do with grain production, but has been designed for cauliflower harvesting. By following widely spaced tracks it will not destroy perfectly good cauliflowers as tractors and trailers do; it will not compact the soil and waste fuel on unnecessary cultivations; and nor will it sink into the soft winter soils, causing damage and erosion.

Or should we scrap it and buy Dutch?

Yours faithfully, BRIAN LEGG, Head, Horticultural Engineering Division, Institute of Engineering Research, West Park, Sligo, Bedford.

From Mr Theodore Sanger Sir, Professor Colin Speeding of Reading University is quoted as saying in the Spectrum article on November 28: "We might try mixing sheep with trees... trees with free range poultry".

Lessons of history

From Dr Jeremy Black Sir, In suggesting that British school and university departments and syllabuses are extensively concerned with British history to the detriment of the study of the affairs of continental Europe, Dr Alexander (November 25) unwittingly serves to compound the problem he discusses correctly.

It is the habit of posing the two as alternatives that has led to inadequate attention to the history of Europe. British history is in no way separable from the history of other European

Fight against Aids

From Dr A. M. Nussey Sir, It is sad to reflect that the impassioned plea by Dr Peter Jones (November 20) for haemophiliacs and their families who have become inadvertently affected by the HI virus might not have been needed had we striven to rely on our own production of the anti-haemophilic (VIII) factor.

We can justly be proud of the free donations of blood by the people of this country, which have always met the needs for transfusion ever since the inception of that procedure. There has also

been enough to spare here for the processing of specialised products such as factor VIII, but even now we buy from the USA about 50 per cent of our requirements for it.

In connection with this, it is known that blood, which is habitually obtained in purchase in the States, quite frequently comes from tainted individuals and this is particularly dangerous when it is pooled for processing. By contrast, it is exceedingly rare even now for any of our near two million donors to be sero-positive.

It is true that current donor screening and other protective measures should greatly reduce

Measures of the evil that men do

From Rabbi Julia Neuberger Sir, Bernard Levin (November 24) is not quite right in his analysis of human evil. It is not as simple as he suggests. The tradition he comes from and I try to teach is nearer the mark.

Judaism argues that we are all born innocent, but with an inclination towards good and an inclination towards evil. These are, roughly speaking, evenly balanced. If we follow the good teaching and the moral precepts we are given, then the good inclination will weigh down the scales. If we ignore the good teachings and moral precepts, then the evil inclination will win.

All of us sometimes let the evil inclination win by virtue of ignoring the moral precepts we know to be right. In that sense, Bernard Levin is correct in saying we are all sinners and responsible for our own sin. But some of us have our moral sensitivities so blunted by environment - by nature or by history - or by a mixture of the three - that the evil inclination always wins, and we are capable of terrible things, as our standard practice.

That blunting of moral sensibilities is a gradual process, and the more it continues the easier it is to commit great evil. One dehumanises fellow human beings, rejoices in physical violence, sees nothing wrong in dealing dishonestly from the inside or whatever - but one begins by blocking off one's moral sense. Be it Nazi Germany, Cambodia, Broadwater Farm Estate or the London Stock Exchange, the process is a gradual one and we can all be caught up in it if we are not careful.

Evil deeds are on a spectrum, some more horrific than others. Comrade Tek probably did not think, when a child, that he would have been able to be so wantonly cruel. Through a process of brainwashing with political doctrine, a refusal to think, and a gradual training in cruelty, he changed.

I believe we could all do the same, and that is ordinary human responsibility for great human evil that we should worry about. For it is not true that people "are evil": it is that they are capable of behaving in an utterly evil way. Bernard Levin, Salman Rushdie, you and I are all equally susceptible, once our moral sensitivities are sufficiently blunted.

I remain, Sir, yours faithfully, JULIA NEUBERGER, South London Liberal Synagogue, Prentis Road, Streatham, SW16, November 24.

Instability in Africa

From Captain T. C. Keigwin Sir, I read with sadness that my good friend and neighbour, General Sir John Acland (November 24), still seeks to persuade us that "Comrade" Mugabe is a "moderate". This is not a view shared by the Matabele, slaughtered in their thousands, or by the prisoners in "Comrade" Mugabe's jails, or by the great majority of a quarter of a million of our own friends and relations in Rhodesia whose futures were destroyed in 1980 by a treacherous, liberal English establishment.

Mugabe makes no secret of his intention to establish a one-party Marxist state. Meanwhile he coordinates the attack on South Africa.

For 20 years the Soviet strategy has been to build up huge naval power, to outflank Nato, overthrow the South African Government, and install a Marxist puppet regime in the Cape. They could then force the West to surrender, by denying us the vital strategic minerals needed to keep our factories open.

The overriding British interest must be to ensure that the Cape remains in friendly hands. To provide funds and ammunition to troops helping the Soviet plan is suicidal lunacy.

I hope British taxpayers will turn a deaf ear to John Acland's well-intentioned but misguided plea. Yours faithfully, TIM KEIGWIN, The Old Vicarage, West Anstey, South Molton, Devon.

Oxford's plight

From the Chairman of B. H. Blackwell Ltd Sir, The Press reports of the financial plight of Oxford University and the state of its library collections did not go unnoticed abroad: the *China Daily* I picked up in Beijing on November 19 made much of them.

One might ask how this country is to carry conviction in the face of commercial, technological and cultural competition if it is seen to value so little what is internationally esteemed as a national treasure as well as a national resource. I am, Sir, etc, MILES BLACKWELL, Chairman, B. H. Blackwell, Ltd, 50 Broad Street, Oxford.

ON THIS DAY

DECEMBER 3 1805 Last year, on November 7, we reported that Lord Collingwood's dispatch on the battle of Trafalgar (October 21, 1805). After his official version a number of less formal accounts were published, of which the one below is typical.

(BATTLE OF TRAFALGAR)

FROM THE GIBRALTAR CHRONICLE, Nov. 9

We shall now present our readers with such further interesting particulars, respecting the late important victory, as have come to our knowledge since those inserted in our last number.

The bravery of our seamen has never been doubted; but the uncommon success and marked superiority which they displayed over the enemy on this glorious day, are chiefly to be attributed to the cool intrepidity and discipline which prevailed throughout the fleet in a high degree; a very remarkable proof of which is, that we have not heard of a single accident having happened on board any of our ships, from hurry or carelessness, during the whole of the engagement.

We do not recollect any general assault made on any of our ships run on board those of the enemy; no less than five of the French captured ships were engaged so closely, that the muzzles of our lower-deck guns touched those of the enemy; and it is worthy of remark, that in every instance where this occurred, the Frenchman immediately lowered their ports and desisted their guns on deck, whilst our seamen, on the contrary, were deliberately loading and firing their guns with two- and often with three-round shot, which soon reduced the enemy's ships to a perfect wreck.

The dreadful slaughter on board, and the shattered condition of all the captured ships, whilst it shows with what obstinacy the enemy in general fought, is a surprising proof of the decided superiority our seamen possess over the enemy in close action.

It seems to be generally allowed that the French fired with more vivacity at the commencement of the action than the Spaniards; but that the Spaniards showed more firmness and courage to the end than the French. As enemies, though vanquished, their gallantry commands the highest respect, and the humanity with which every English sailor that fell into their hands was treated, exceeds all praise. They refused to consider as prisoners of war, such of our officers and men as were driven on their coast in the captured ships by the violence of the storm; every exertion was made from the shore to save their lives, and the Spanish soldiers were turned out of their beds to accommodate our shipwrecked seamen, who experienced every mark of kindness and attention that a generous enemy could bestow.

The behaviour of the French, on the contrary, in several instances, both during, and after, the engagement, forms so melancholy a contrast to the bravery and humanity of the Spaniards, that as we have felt it our duty to render the latter that applause, which their conduct so truly entitles them to, we think it equally an act of justice to record, with impartiality, the baseness of the French, both to their allies and foes.

On the surrender of the *Bucentaure*, an Officer and a hundred men were sent to take possession of her, who conducted themselves with that moderation and forbearance to a vanquished enemy which is characteristic of Britons. The violent storm, which so soon followed the engagement, prevented the removal of the prisoners, and drove the *Bucentaure* towards Cadix, where the Frenchmen, from their superiority of numbers, were easily enabled to take possession of the ship and carry her into the harbour, where, however, she was stranded, and completely wrecked. The crew, and party of Englishmen, were taken off by the *San Juan*, one of the French frigates in the harbour, and carried on board of the vessel, where, will it be believed, the infamous and cowardly crew of the frigate, when they saw some of the gallant conquerors of their Admiral and his fleet completely in their power, unarmed, and exhausted with fatigue and shipwreck, and incapable of resistance, in this situation, did these dastardly Frenchmen, in revenge for the defeat they had sustained, assault and treat with the utmost cruelty; and with every species of insult and inhumanity, many of the unfortunate and defenceless English prisoners, whom the fury of the elements, and not the fate of the battle, had thus subjected to their power.

Bitter-sweet memory

From Miss Pat Entract Sir, Mrs Weston-Davies's bottle of Angostura bitters (November 21) is comparatively youthful. I still use a bottle which has been in my family since about 1937 - certainly several years before the war.

If I remember rightly, it was contributed to our modest drinks cupboard by a rather sophisticated aunt. It still has intact its useful glass dropper-pipe in the cork and its yellowing wrapper extols its many virtues, not least as "an excellent remedy for hysterical and hypochondriac attacks".

Yours faithfully, PAT ENTRACT, 2 Elm Court, Cholmeley Park, N6, November 22.

From Mr Paul Waghorn Sir, Angostura hinders do not last as long if also used in *sauze vinaigrette*. Yours faithfully, PAUL WAGHORN, 9 Alfred Road, W3, November 21.







BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS

Who to the distant north, you people who live far away before I was born...

BIRTHS

BEALE - On November 27th, to Eleanor (nee Victoria) and Christopher, a son John Henry, a brother for Sarah, James and Emma.

DEATHS

ARMY - On 27th November, in his 83rd year, Geoffrey at Sidmouth, Devon, Richard Gregory, 3rd son of...

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

My sincere thanks to all those who have helped me in my time of need...

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My sincere thanks to all those who have helped me in my time of need...

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ROYAL SOCIETY OF MUSICIANS 117, Tottenham Court Road, London W1P 0LP

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Executive Editor  
Kenneth Fleet

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share  
1278.4 (+5.9)  
FT-SE 100  
1625.5 (+7.7)  
Bargains  
27395 (29647)  
USM (Datastream)  
129.28 (+0.09)

THE POUND

US Dollar  
1.4330 (-0.0045)  
W German mark  
2.8244 (+0.0011)  
Trade-weighted  
67.8 (-0.1)

IoD to urge  
cut in taxes

The Institute of Directors is to urge the Government to cut the top rate of income tax by 10p and says the Chancellor can afford to trim 3p off the basic tax rate of 29p.

The institute's council met yesterday to consider its proposals for next spring's Budget, to be submitted to the Treasury in the new year.

Mr Lawson has said the £4,700 million increase in government spending he announced in the autumn statement ruled out a cut in the basic rate from 29p to 25p.

But the institute says the steady rise of the oil price, savings from the reduction in the duty queues, and extra tax revenue from the increase in government spending will give him about £4 billion.

US indicators  
jump by 0.6%

The US index of leading indicators, a broad gauge of economic activity, jumped by 0.6 per cent in October after a 0.2 per cent rise in September, the Commerce Department said.

Meanwhile, building industry contracts were at their highest level for 10 months and construction spending rose by 1.6 per cent to \$386.5 billion (£270.2 billion) as builders rushed projects to beat tougher tax laws.

Beecham sells

Beecham Group has sold its Morton Brands tinned vegetables and fruit fillings business to Hillside Holdings for \$8.5 million. Based at Lowestoft, Morton employs 160 people and has assets with a book value of £6 million. Beecham said that the sale is in line with its plans to concentrate on "core brands which offer profitable growth opportunities."

Bid rebuff

Fothergill & Harvey says that the offer document from Courtaulds contains nothing to cause the board to modify its judgement that the offer for the company is both "opportunistic and completely unacceptable."

Hollis stake

Mr Robert Maxwell's Hollis group holds a stake of 28.3 per cent in AE, the engineering group, after buying more shares in the market. The rival bidder, Turner & Newall, whose bid closes on Friday, has a 42 per cent holding.

RTZ buys

Rio Tinto-Zinc Corporation is to increase its stake in Anglesey Aluminium from 33.3 to 51 per cent. It is paying £20 million for part of the stake held by its partner in the project, Kaiser Aluminium & Chemical Corporation.

Table with 2 columns: Market Index, Value. Includes Wall Street, Dow Jones, Nikkei Dow, etc.

MARKET SUMMARY

Table with 2 columns: Stock Market, Value. Includes New York, Dow Jones, Tokyo, etc.

INTEREST RATES

Table with 2 columns: Rate, Value. Includes London Bank Base, 3-month Interbank, etc.

CURRENCIES

Table with 2 columns: Currency, Value. Includes London, New York, etc.

STOCK MARKETS

Table with 2 columns: Market, Value. Includes New York, Dow Jones, Tokyo, etc.

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

Table with 2 columns: Item, Value. Includes Derek Grouh, Portale Holdings, etc.

GOLD

Table with 2 columns: Item, Value. Includes London Fixing, AM 5394.30, etc.

NORTH SEA OIL

Table with 2 columns: Item, Value. Includes Brent (Jan.), pm\$16.00/bbl, etc.

Share price movement sharp

Guinness: bid under scrutiny

The Government investigation into Guinness centres on the movement of Guinness's share price throughout the course of its hotly-contested battle for control of Distillers with Mr Jimmy Gulliver's Argyll Group.

Confirmation of the investigation's focus came yesterday from Mr George Law, the compliance officer of Morgan Grenfell, merchant bank advisers to Guinness, who were visited by representatives of the DTI inspectors on Monday morning.

It emerged also that the two broking firms that acted for Guinness at the time of the bid, Cazenove and Wood Mackenzie, were both visited by representatives of the DTI inspectors on Monday morning.

Guinness's share price fell back further yesterday from an opening level of 298p to 285p. This represents a fall of 45p in the shares since the announcement of the enquiry - and the shares are rapidly approaching the year's low of 277p.

The Argyll Group yesterday lent support to the DTI investigation and added its belief that there had been share price manipulations by Wall Street speculators.

The focus of attention is still Mr Ivan Boesky the disgraced American arbitrator, who is known to have been involved in the bid, although to date only as a purchaser of Distillers shares.

The timing of the DTI investigation after receiving information from the SEC suggests Mr Boesky's evidence has triggered the investigation. Further support comes from the Government bringing in special powers last Thursday which would enable it to return the compliment to the SEC.

Referring to the visit at Morgan Grenfell, Mr Law said yesterday, "What they wanted was to look at all files or other records that in any way related to dealings in Guinness shares from the start of the bid for Distillers."

The DTI investigation will extend to any dealings in Guinness shares done by Morgan Grenfell Asset Management, the discretionary fund management arm of Morgan Grenfell as well as dealings by Morgan Grenfell Securities, the market-making arm which was formerly run by Mr Geoffrey Collier.

The inspectors have also asked for details of deals carried out by Morgan Grenfell & Co, which was financial adviser to Guinness and bought shares in Guinness as a principal at the time of the bid. And they will examine records of Finchin Denny and Pember and Boyle which became 100 per cent subsidiaries of Morgan Grenfell towards the end of the bid.

Mr Law was not able to say whether the inspectors' interest was in the ownership of Guinness shares or on the pattern of trading in them.

Guinness shares moved up substantially during the latter part of its 4 and a half month battle. The shares which stood at 281 pence on the 13th of March rose to 353 pence on April 11th shortly before it secured control of Distillers.

DTI inquiry 'urgent'

Mr Michael Howard, Minister for Consumer and Corporate Affairs, yesterday forcefully defended government policy for combating insider dealing and City fraud, making clear that special inspectors appointed in the past three weeks by the Trade and Industry Department to look into alleged abuse were under orders to act with the greatest urgency.

In a Commons debate on insider dealing, he declined to be drawn over the investigation announced on Monday into Guinness plc, saying that it would be improper of him to comment or give details of cases under investigation.

"No-one can be in any doubt that we regard insider dealing as a thoroughly pernicious practice which is damaging to markets and unfair to individuals and

which we are determined to do all in our power to root out," Mr Howard said. The timing of the inspectors' report was a matter for them, but he expected them "to address their task with the greatest possible urgency."

To underline that the government was not holding back where wrongdoers were concerned, he disclosed that Mr Geoffrey Collier, the former head of Morgan Grenfell's market-making operation, who was the target of DTI inspectors last month, had been charged for alleged offences involving deals in AE shares. Preliminary investigation had also been completed concerning an employee of British and Commonwealth.

Mr Robin Cook, opening for Labour, described the DTI move against Guinness, as a "fraud investigation" that followed the company's "extremely seedy transactions" in conjunction with its £2.7 billion takeover of Distillers this year. The financial world's passion for takeovers was a paradox seen against Britain's declining manufacturing sector.

Mr Howard accused Labour of "City-bashing" and of having no genuine concern for regulatory arrangements. No further powers had been identified as being needed to combat insider dealing, beyond those already provided, and remarks in yesterday's Times by Senator William Proxmire showed that the US' statutory Securities and Exchange Commission had failed to identify major insider dealing for some years, hardly recommending that system as an alternative to Britain's system of self-regulation.

Lord Weinstock, the managing director of the General Electric Company, Britain's biggest electronics group, is not expecting its trading profits to grow by more than a few per cent next year. However, in the two years following that, trading profits are expected to grow by between 12 and 16 per cent, he said.

Lord Weinstock was speaking yesterday at a meeting with City analysts following the announcement of the group's interim results for the six months to the end of September 1986. The pretax profits were at the bottom end of expectations at £289 million compared to £275 million in the first half of last year. Turnover increased by 1 per cent to £2.5 billion. A dividend of 1.5p was declared.

The chairman of GEC, the Right Honourable James Prior, reminded shareholders of a market softness which he had mentioned at the time of the annual meeting in August. He felt that the 1 per cent increase in attributable earnings was a reflection of the company's ability to cope with difficult conditions. "Our core businesses are intact," he said. But the shares fell by 11p to 169p.

Some City analysts were comforted, however, by statements made during yesterday's meeting about the group's attitude to acquisitions. GEC does not, they said, believe that it is in its shareholders' interest to earn such a high proportion of its profits from cash balances. Bulls of the stock were also encouraged about the prospect of GEC winning the RAF Nimrod airborne early warning contract Tempus page 24

Profits up at Anglia

Pretax profits from Anglia Secure Homes, the specialist manager and developer of sheltered housing for the elderly, soared by 85 per cent in the year to September 30 to £840,000. Turnover rose 94 per cent to £4.2 million. Earnings per share were 8.4p.

The group sold 107 homes last year compared with 61 the year before. This year, the City expects the group to sell more than 210. They forecast pretax profits of £2.3 million and earnings per share of 16.2p.

Anglia came to the unlisted securities market in July when 2.6 million shares were placed, raising £2.6 million. The shares performed strongly, rising from the 115p placing price to 242p yesterday.



Out for the count: 17-year-old David Raymond at the NatWest bank's British Gas share count

Tell Sid - it's too late

For Sids who live in Aberdeen, Liverpool, Southampton and 23 other towns up and down the United Kingdom, you have one last chance to get your British Gas applications in this morning. For Sids in Aachenmarty, Lowestoft, Skegness and everywhere else, forget it - it's too late.

Even those Sids living near one of the 32 receiving centres will have to leg it down there chop-chop, to use the parlance of the £5.6 billion issue's advertising campaign, to get their forms in on time - applications close at 10 am around the country.

Application forms, with cheques attached, continued to pour in yesterday with the organizers of the issue hoping that the number of potential investors will top the five million who sought shares in the TSB Bank flotation in October.

The shares appear likely to open at a 10p-15p premium over the initial 50p payment when trading starts next Monday. However letters of allocation will not be posted until a week later.

For now, it just remains for the receiving banks to count up the forms, weed out the multiple applicants and decide the basis of allocation. And, of course, to tear down all those "Tell Sid" adverts.

Trafalgar write-offs cost £100m

Trafalgar House lost more than £100 million in write-offs last year due to its exposure to oil and gas production and the offshore construction industry. The shares, which have been falling since the beginning of the year were marked down another 10p to 272p.

Extraordinary write-offs taken below the line were £79 million of which £56.8 million related to oil and gas investments. In addition, £50 million was charged direct to reserves in respect of the Scott Lithgow acquisition.

Pretax profit for the year to September 30 rose 2 per cent to £145.8 million. Earnings per share fell from 34.7p to 32.7p before extraordinary items. The dividend was lifted 15 per cent to 13.2p.

Giordano steers BOC back to what it does best

Mr Richard Giordano, the chairman and chief executive of BOC, is expecting profits and earnings to grow by 20 per cent in the current year.

Speaking yesterday after the announcement of the group's results for the year to the end of September, Mr Giordano said that a good underlying performance would be enhanced by lower interest payments and a lower than expected tax charge.

The group is now concentrating 90 per cent of its efforts on its core businesses of industrial gases and healthcare.

BOC reported pretax profits of £64.1 million, on a modified historic cost basis, compared to £71.3 million in 1984-85. However, this was after an exceptional charge of £128 million covering the write down of certain assets.

City analysts are forecasting pretax profits for 1986-87 on an historic cost basis of £255 million and 35.5p of earnings. The shares rose 8p yesterday to 348p.

Unilever spends £2.1 billion on US toiletries

Unilever, the Anglo-Dutch food and household products empire, is making an agreed \$3.1 billion (£2.1 billion) bid for the Chesebrough-Pond's group in a move that will significantly strengthen its American presence.

The merger will bring together two of the strongest-branded conglomerates in the personal and household goods sector.

A combined group would include Lux soap, Omo washing powder and Brooke Bond tea from the Unilever stable and Chesebrough's Vaseline petroleum jelly, Pond's cold cream and Q-tips cotton swabs.

The Chesebrough group includes also Ragu, the packaged food business which is thought to control about half of the \$750 million market in America for spaghetti sauces.

Overall, Chesebrough showed net income of \$82 million last year on sales of \$2.7 billion - equivalent to more than 10 per cent of Unilever's turnover. Net income rose to \$138 million in the first nine months this year.

Unilever is making a cash tender offer of \$72.50 for each Chesebrough share, which will remain open until December 30.

It has an option to purchase 7.9 million new shares, equivalent to 18.5 per cent of the present issued capital, at the same price, and another option over the Ragu subsidiary.

Unilever is unpegged at present and funds for the deal are expected to come from short-term borrowings raised at attractive rates in the US.

The agreed terms top the hostile \$66 offer announced last week by American Brands, the diversified tobacco group, which owns the Gallaher cigarette company in Britain.

A spokesman at American Brands' headquarters in Greenwich, Connecticut, said the group was evaluating the situation closely.

Shares in Chesebrough, which stood at \$45 last week before the American Brands bid emerged, rose \$3 to 71-7/8 on the New York Stock Exchange yesterday.

The deal also excited City followers of Unilever, whose shares rose 83p to an all-time high of £21.18.

Analysts had been awaiting a decisive play by the group in America, where profits have recovered this year after a sharp downturn last year because of stiff competition, especially from Procter & Gamble in the detergents sector.

Mr Les Pugh, of Wood Mackenzie, the brokers, said: "The Unilever story has been a very successful one this year and this latest one should give it a new twist for 1987."

Chancellor rules out devaluation

The Chancellor, Mr Nigel Lawson, yesterday again spoke out against devaluation as a policy to improve Britain's competitiveness.

He did so as - for the second successive day - the pound slipped a little in foreign exchange markets on continuing concern about the outlook for the balance of payments.

Speaking at a dinner given by the Better Made In Britain organization, Mr Lawson said: "Devaluation means surrender to inflation. It simply perpetuates the inflationary spiral."

"I have always made it clear that I favour an exchange rate which will exert a degree of financial discipline and put British industry on its mettle."

The Chancellor said that the performance of British exports in recent years had been very encouraging but that there was still concern about the rapid growth of imports. Any retreat into protectionism would be a disastrous step backwards.

Official reserves of gold and foreign currencies rose last month by \$14 million to \$22,006 million. The underlying rise, after netting out official borrowing and capital repayments, was \$35 million.

The figures were better than expected because markets had been anticipating some further effect from the official intervention in support of the pound during September and October.

Mr Peter Warburton, of L Messel, the broker, commented: "We imagine the bad news has been postponed."

Advertisement for T&N Turner & Newall PLC. It features a large graphic of the number '282.4p' and '287p' representing share values. Text includes 'FINAL OFFER FOR AE PLC', 'VALUE OF T&N FINAL OFFER: (per share, part cash) 282.4p', and 'VALUE OF ADDITIONAL SHARE ELECTION UNDER T&N FINAL OFFER: (assuming full satisfaction of such an election) 287p'. It also mentions 'THE RENEWED OFFER IS FINAL AND WILL CLOSE AT 1.00 p.m. ON 5th DECEMBER, 1986 UNLESS IT IS THEN UNCONDITIONAL AS TO ACCEPTANCES' and 'ADDITIONAL SHARE ELECTIONS AND ADDITIONAL CASH ELECTIONS WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE AFTER 1.00 p.m. ON 5th DECEMBER, 1986 IN ANY CIRCUMSTANCES'.



WALL STREET

Shares pull back after early buying

New York (Agencies) - Wall Street shares pulled back in early trading yesterday after a futures-related buying spree, but remained solidly higher on the day. Shares were buoyed by the momentum of the previous day's recovery and a rise of 0.6 per cent in the October leading economic indicators. The Dow Jones industrial average was up 16.45 at 1,928.59, after being up by more than 20 points for a few minutes. The average was still above its record closing high of 1,919.71 set on September 4.

Advancing issues led shares by a margin of five to one and trading was moderately active. The volume 59 million shares. Share prices rose strongly at the opening bell as arbitrageurs took advantage of the large premiums being commanded by stock index futures contracts. The December Standard & Poor's 500 contract, for example, was priced at about two points over the index itself. The transportation average was up 6.58 at 851.41, utilities at 212.23, were up 0.75 and stocks were up 5.73 at 758.92.

Table with columns for Dec 28 and Nov 28, listing various stocks and their percentage changes. Includes companies like AMR, ASA, Allied Signal, etc.

Takeovers: more winners than losers

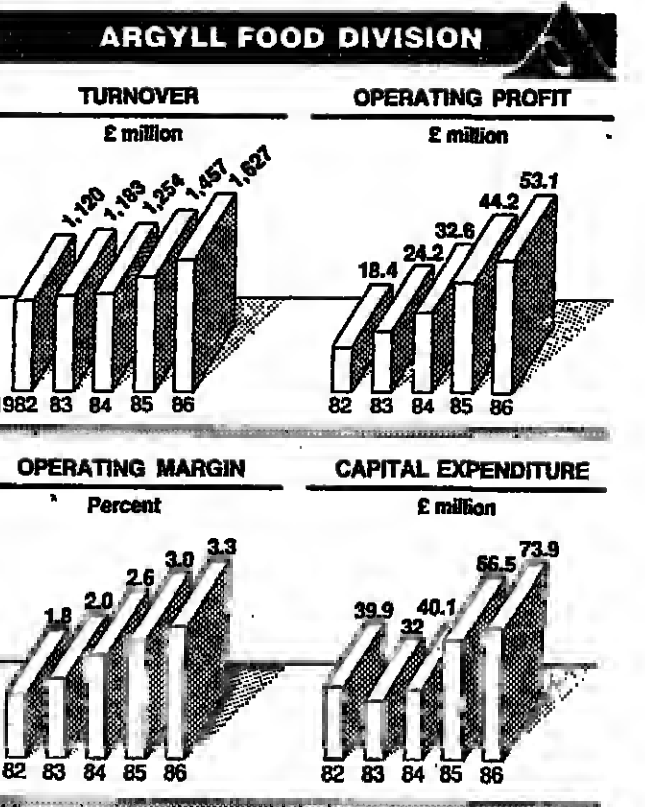
Sir Gordon White, chairman of Hanson Industries, the American arm of Hanson Trust, puts the case for more, not less, competition



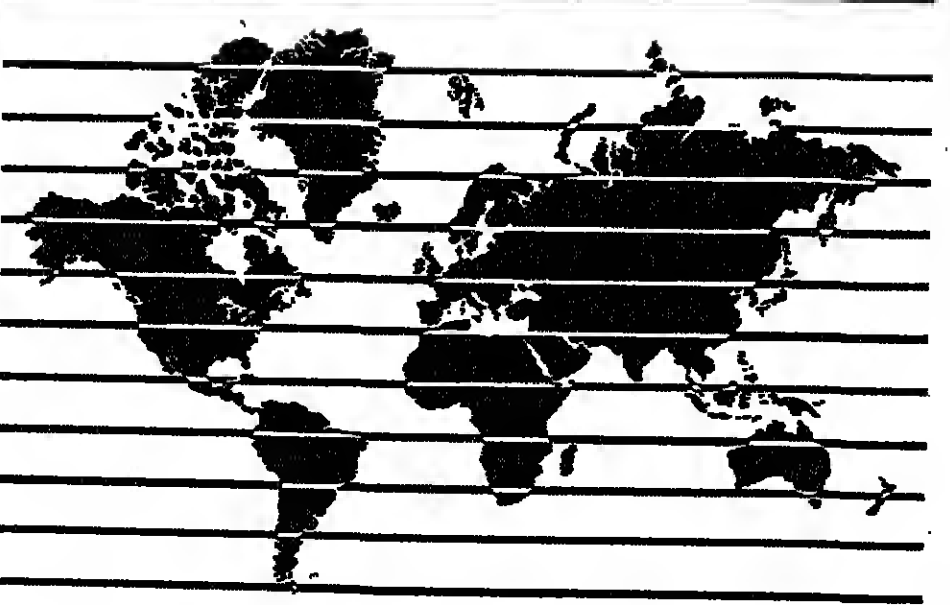
Change is the overriding feature of the modern industrial world. The rise and fall of competitive advantage between industries and between individual companies is constant, kept moving by ferocious competition between businesses and indeed countries. It is perfectly natural that in this process there are losers as well as winners. No amount of wishful thinking on the part of politicians or businessmen nostalgic for earlier, easier times can change that. What must be done - especially in this country - is to ease the path for the businesses and industries which are in the ascendancy so that they can flourish and for those in decline to be redeployed with all speed and efficiency. Entrenched management and trade union attitudes, resistant to inevitable change, have been a major cause of Britain's post-war industrial decline. Indeed the complacent and generally poor management of these sunset industries on the one hand and the lack of political will by successive governments on the other, have come in for much deserved criticism on this score. A major role played by takeovers is that of displacing unsuccessful managements and restoring the competitive position. This is already occurring in large sections of British industry. It is really surprising that this positive aspect has not been more widely acclaimed, when the constant bleating of sectional interests unwilling and ill-equipped to face up to the new realities, is still able to retain some misplaced credibility. Captains of yesterday's industries fight fiercely to preserve their areas of privilege and would rather go down with their ship than embrace inevitable change. Seen in the light of industrial reorganization, it becomes clear why merger activity has been much more a feature of post-war Britain and the US. It is often suggested that the low level of takeover activity in Germany and Japan is direct proof that mergers are harmful. This fails to recognise the vital role that mergers and takeovers play in the essential process of modernization in the UK and the US. The post-war restructuring of Germany and Japan, as is well known, was extensive. It was done out of necessity by other means. The victorious nations had to phase out the pre-war assets (and attitudes) more gradually. Given the head start that post-war regeneration gave Japan, it is interesting to note that the most powerful commercial forces in Japan today are the conglomerate 'Zaiyatsus' rather than one-product producers. In the UK and US, multiproduct companies (like Hanson Trust and BTR) are emerging and grad-

Argyll rings up £36m despite Distillers scars

A year ago yesterday, Mr James Gulliver, the chairman of the Argyll group, embarked on the most ambitious venture of his distinguished business career - the £2.7 billion battle for control of the whisky giant, Distillers. It was also to prove his most disappointing failure, ending in defeat by Guinness after the roughest takeover the City has seen. Yesterday, Mr Gulliver proved that he is nothing if not durable, turning in excellent half-time profits from Argyll which show that even during the distractions of the bid, he and his colleague Alistair Grant, newly appointed group chief executive, kept the supermarkets-to-whisky group well on track for substantially higher profits next year. The figures were at the top end of City expectations, showing a 22 per cent rise at the pre-tax level to £36.3 million. The profit and loss account bears the legacy of the failed Guinness takeover, which led to interest charges of £2.5 million on the borrowings necessary to finance the £34 million of net expenses incurred during the battle. The star performer was the food division which produced a 30 per cent increase in operating profit, while the most significant achievement was the increase in net margins from 3.09 per cent to 3.75 per cent, taking Argyll into the same league as its bigger high street rivals. Only five years ago, Argyll's food retailing margins were a waver thin 1.6 per cent on sales. After the takeover of the Allied Suppliers chain, Gulliver and his team owned more than 1200 stores, many of them small and inefficient and suppliers were delivering to more than 600 locounas. The profitability has been improved substantially by a riparian strategy. Gulliver's first task was to rationalize the distribution system with a network of new depots. By 1985 just over a third of the food division merchandise went through Argyll's own warehouse system but by 1986 almost 90 per cent will be distributed in-house. The second step was to make substantial changes to the store portfolio. Although the number of Argyll's outlets has dropped from 1200 in 1982 to 972, its selling space has grown by more than 10 per cent to 5 million square feet. Stage three was to rationalize the identities of the outlets. After the half-time figures yesterday, analysts were looking for 20 per cent improvement to £78 million over the full year with a further strong advance to perhaps £95 million next year. Shareholders are to receive an interim dividend of 3.1 p, an increase of 17 per cent on last year.



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PATERSON ZOCHONIS

Record profits for 1986

Summary of Results table showing Turnover, Profit before tax, Earnings per share, and Total dividend per share for 1986 and 1985.

Highlights 1985/86: In a year when, as a result of exchange rate movements, the contribution to group profits from the Nigerian operations has declined, it is very encouraging to be able to report improvements elsewhere in the group which more than offset this fall.

Considering the difficulties under which they were operating the Nigerian companies did remarkably well. The new economic measures introduced in September should help to achieve a satisfactory rescheduling of the country's foreign exchange obligations which in turn should allow time for the local economy to benefit from the relaxation of controls.

Profits of the Cussons group showed significant improvement. The UK companies made further gains in market share and continued to benefit from favourable raw material prices. Record profits were made in Australia while the Kenya company maintained its position and both these subsidiaries have plans to increase their production capacities.

Current year: The movement in Nigerian exchange rates means that group profits of the first half-year are expected to be lower than the corresponding period of last year. Results of the second half-year should be comparable with the second half of 1985/86.



PATERSON ZOCHONIS PLC, BRIDGEWATER HOUSE, 60 WHITWORTH STREET, MANCHESTER M1 6LU. Africa - United Kingdom & Europe - Australia & Far East

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**Rings up despite scars**

City Editor

same league as its bigger high street rivals.

Only five years ago, Argyl's food retailing margins were a water then 1.5 per cent on sales. After the takeover of Allied Suppliers chain, Gulliver and his team owned more than 1200 stores, many of them small and inefficient and suppliers were deluged with more than 600 locations.

The profitability has been improved substantially by a rationalization strategy.

Gulliver's first task was to rationalize the distribution system with a network of new depots. By the end of the year, a third of the food division merchandise had been moved through Argyl's own warehouse system but by the end of the year, 40 per cent will be distributed to house.

The second step was to make substantial changes to the store portfolio. Although the number of Argyl's stores has dropped from 1200 in 1982 to 800, the selling space has grown by 20 per cent. Stage three was to rationalize the identity of the stores.

After the re-structuring, Argyl's stores are looking improved by 20 per cent over the last year. The further the stores are from the city, the better the performance. Shareholders are to expect an interim dividend of 1.5 pence last year.

**OOD DIVISION**

OPERATING PROFIT

1986

CAPITAL RESEARCH

**OPERATING PROFIT**

1986

CAPITAL RESEARCH

**IN IS**

1986

**GOLD**

1986

STOCK MARKET

**Pilkington concern at possible insider trading before bid**

By Michael Clark and Carol Leonard

Pilkington Brothers, the biggest glass manufacturer in Britain and currently on the receiving end of an unwelcome £1.2 billion bid from the industrial conglomerate BTR, is worried that its shares may have been used for insider trading.

The chairman, Mr Antony Pilkington, the fifth generation to run the company, says: "Our shares rose sharply the day before BTR started buying - somebody must have known something."

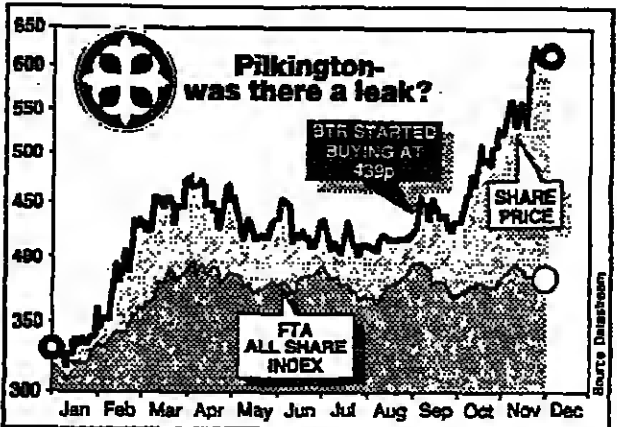
BTR, which, through its subsidiary Treadstep, now owns more than 8 million Pilkington shares - equivalent to 3.8 per cent of the company - made its first purchase of 200,000 shares at 439p each on Thursday, September 4.

The day before that Pilkington's shares jumped 17p to 433p and they rose a further 6p on the Thursday, before BTR actually made its first purchase.

Yesterday Pilkington's shares firmed a penny to 417p while BTR recovered some of the ground it had lost earlier in the week, climbing 9p to 274p. The BTR offer is now worth 53p a share.

Pilkington hopes that its interim results, out on December 8, together with its official defence document, due to be published on December 10, will lift it even further out of BTR's reach.

But most City experts see the current offer from BTR, whose advisers are Morgan Grenfell, as a "sighing shot" and confidently expect it to go higher before the battle is over. BTR has until January 10 to post details of any improved offer.



been 25 times over-subscribed.

Beverly, the paper group, jumped 7p to 338p, on talk that Hanson Trust may have done a private deal to sell its 11 per cent stake in the company to Buzal. Buzal shares improved 5p to 213p.

Unilever jumped 6p to 2095p as market men gave the thumbs up to the proposed agreed merger of its US offshoot with Cheesbrough-Pond's, in a deal which values Cheesbrough at \$3.1 billion.

Tate & Lyle, the Mr Cube sugar producer, advanced 8p to 583p ahead of preliminary results expected later today.

These should make pleasant reading. Last night there was talk in the market that a provision of £10 million made by the group a few years back against losses incurred in the Far East may be written back into these figures. Analysts are already looking for pretax profits of about £82 million compared with £76.7 million last time.

Among the high street retailers, Next improved 3p to 235p following a seminar for the company in Edinburgh on Monday night with various City institutions. They were

looking for some indication from Mr George Davies, chairman, as to how well this year's merger with Grattan, the mail order group, was progressing.

Woolworth celebrated its debut on the traded option market with a 10p rise to 670p, while speculative buying lifted Beestalls, the department store group, 13p to 148p.

Earlier this year the group received a bid approach from Capital and Counties, the property developer, thought to be worth 170p a share. The approach split the Beentall family, but was eventually rejected.

The appointment of the Department of Trade and Industry investigators at Guinness was still a major

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**COMMENT Kenneth Fleet**

**Three men finding it tougher at the top**

Managing, successfully, a major company is never easy, not least because success itself brings its own problems. You are only as good as the next set of profit figures; growth is not a continuous process; and the temptations of maturity can be as damaging to corporate health as the temptations of youth.

Thus, after the latest results, critics of GEC will feel surer of their ground and admirers of Trafalgar House will feel uneasy. At GEC the direction has become less sure, or if not the direction, the will. Trafalgar House has lacked none of its former boldness; its judgment of the right opportunities is less good.

Sir Nigel Brookes is hoping that the award of the Dartford Bridge contract marked the turning of the tide in Trafalgar's sea of recent misfortunes - Scott Lithgow, an ill-timed commitment to oil and gas, the tourist fall-out from Chernobyl and the Libyan raid - and indeed the second half of the current financial year should bring better results. But some of the bounce has gone and the dividend reflects promise rather than performance.

For Lord Weinstock the problems are of a greater magnitude. Moreover, some of the possible solutions are in the hands of others - the award of the critical airborne early warning system contract for example - or are made difficult by distortions in the current image of GEC, which contrasts for instance with the flattering public perception of Plessey. GEC can no longer afford simply to stand its ground; it needs to move forward.

But neither Trafalgar nor GEC is faced with the horrendous problems which suddenly confront Guinness. The

sudden decision of the Department of Trade to send in inspectors, almost irrespective of their findings, is clearly damaging to the business itself. In particular the three managing directors in charge of Guinness's three main divisions, if it is humanly possible, have to shut out other considerations and continue running the business. With an important set of results due next week Guinness is under the microscope -

For its part the Department of Trade ought, without further delay, to detail the reasons why it has acted in the way it has. Both Guinness management and Guinness shareholders should not be left to speculate in the dark about what exactly the DTI suspects may have happened during the bid for Distillers (DCL) to break the law. It appeared yesterday that the inspectors were concentrating on dealings in Guinness shares, acting on information received from the United States based on the testimony, in various forms, of fallen arbitrageur, Ivan Boesky. Having been more specific about its concerns, the DTI should ensure that its inspectors do their work as rapidly as possible. A prolonged period of uncertainty about the outcome of their investigations would compound the damage already done by the fact of the inquiry.

If the investigation cannot be carried out properly except over months, it would raise a very difficult question for the Guinness board and in particular for Mr Ernest Saunders. Would it make sense, during a lengthy investigation for him to attempt three jobs: responding to the inquirers, presiding as chairman and overseeing and directing the group as chief executive. In the last analysis the board's first responsibility is the health and prosperity of Guinness.

**Unilever patience rewarded**

Unilever's American megabid looks like a case of patience rewarded. Last year it failed, as the perceived hostile aggressor, in a bid for Richardson-Vicks. This time the positions were reversed. The Anglo-Dutch group, which has long gone native in the US, emerged as the white knight for Cheesbrough-Pond's to counter a hostile bid from American Brands.

Both the commercial fit and the timing, in terms of sterling-dollar currency swings, look better as a result of the year's delay to Unilever's ambitions. Admittedly, by overbidding about \$300 million (£208.3 million) at \$3.1 billion, Unilever has set itself much to do to establish a bargain buy. Cheesbrough's net income was only \$82 million in 1985, though the \$138 million for the first nine months of this year shows the improving trend well enough.

The logic, however, is powerful. Unilever in the US is strong through the

**ALPHA STOCKS**

These prices are as at 6.45pm

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	1985	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg									
363	283	Allied-Lyons	300	905	..	14.5	4.8	13.8	636	629	405	Hawker Siddeley	438	444	..	21.4	4.9	8.7	406	
174	126	ASDA-MFI	148	152	..	4.5	3.0	16.4	321	11	11	734 Imp Chem Ind	11	11	..	48.5	4.4	12.4	2500	
483	284	BTR	272	277	+10	8.3	3.6	19.2	520	585	355	Jaguar	585	585	..	12.7	2.4	10.7	973	
491	361	BAT	487	457	+4	18.4	4.0	11.8	912	301	312	Ladbroke	305	300	..	16.8	4.7	17.1	512	
572	449	Barclays	470	477	+5	28.1	5.9	6.8	821	348	278	Land Securities	343	346	..	14.5	4.2	28.1	709	
840	680	Bass	720	730	-2	21.7	3.0	15.4	389	288	138	Legal & Gen	237	242	..	12.3	5.1	30.6	871	
450	356	Beaumont	415	420	..	17.1	4.1	17.4	939	484	253	Lloyds	425	430	..	25.0	5.8	8.9	899	
728	528	Blue Circle	320	327	..	38.0	4.6	12.2	101	283	188	Lovro	228	231	..	17.1	7.4	11.9	2,400	
383	283	BCC	345	348	..	10.1	4.1	13.2	4,000	291	183	Maria & Spencer	183	186	..	5.8	3.1	22.1	1,800	
289	170	Boots	229	232	..	14.6	4.6	15.1	3,900	559	417	Midland	545	550	..	37.1	6.8	20.3	768	
608	423	Br Aerospace	500	505	+5	23.4	4.7	10.9	1,500	953	426	Nat West	468	468	..	27.8	5.8	5.1	1,400	
709	539	Br Petroleum	675	680	..	43.8	7.2	7.4	3,700	578	468	P & O Dtd	520	525	..	25.0	4.8	16.0	2,000	
438	271	BT Telecom	184	188	+2	10.7	5.5	11.4	4,000	248	182	Plessey	188	172	..	7.2	4.2	12.8	2,300	
193	98	British	151	163	+3	8.3	6.1	4.1	1,900	942	718	Prudential	815	822	..	38.8	4.7	9.1	308	
354	256	Burton	282	286	+2	8.1	3.1	14.8	1,500	234	148	Real Elect	175	180	..	4.3	2.4	18.9	6,700	
309	277	Cable & Wireless	320	327	+2	7.2	2.2	17.7	2,300	300	606	Reckitt Colman	798	805	..	23.9	3.0	17.8	899	
196	158	Cashbury Shoppings	180	183	+1	17.4	6.7	..	1,500	559	345	Reaumur	585	570	..	5.4	1.0	43.0	747	
339	257	Cent Union	257	260	+1	17.4	6.7	..	1,500	791	511	RTZ	863	870	..	31.4	4.7	8.8	598	
704	409	Cons Goldfields	645	652	..	35.9	5.4	18.5	290	957	782	Royal Ind	813	850	..	51.4	..	..	1,400	
330	252	Courtauld	315	318	..	10.2	3.2	10.7	2,100	425	344	Sainsbury (J)	415	419	..	6.3	2.0	24.2	478	
438	318	Dunelm Grp	332	338	..	4.5	1.5	23.8	1,700	148	38	Sears	123	124	..	5.0	4.0	15.0	3,100	
650	408	Fisons	546	550	..	8.4	1.5	24.4	712	415	321	Sedgwick Op	325	330	..	17.1	5.2	15.8	781	
954	701	Gen Accident	818	825	..	24.7	4.2	20.7	432	670	653	Shell	843	840	..	4.3	2.4	18.9	6,700	
228	158	GEC	189	170	-12	6.1	3.6	10.5	17,500	174	96	STC	188	172	..	2.1	1.2	15.8	3,100	
196	170	Glaxo	817	827	+12	20.2	4.2	19.3	1,700	772	620	Sun Alliance	620	627	..	4.6	27.5	4.4	58.2	578
461	328	Grand Met	463	468	..	13.5	2.9	15.9	5,400	81	75	TSB P/P	76	77	..	..	..	..	..	
117	721	GUS 'A	10	10	..	30.0	3.0	14.1	151	420	299	Tesco	375	380	..	8.9	2.4	21.8	401	
954	720	GRE	770	777	..	45.2	8.5	22.4	348	529	374	Thorn EM	498	475	..	23.0	3.3	34.3	211	
385	235	GNV	283	285	..	17.8	4.5	6.3	352	349	133	Thornlight House	270	273	..	18.8	6.9	7.4	4,200	
355	275	Guinness	268	289	+12	10.5	3.6	10.8	6,300	228	136	Trusthouse Forte	177	180	..	7.9	4.4	17.7	1,100	
215	141	Hanson	182	194	-2	5.7	3.0	17.2	4,700											

**Perot cannot resist a final jab at flank of General Motors**

From Bailey Morris Washington

Mr Ross Perot has a knack of placing himself in the eye of the storm. The Texas billionaire's allegations that he was paid \$700 million (£488 million) in a "bushmail" buyout agreement to still his criticism of General Motors, the world's largest corporation, was in character.

Equally in character was his claim that he had been enlisted secretly by the National Security Council to provide \$2 million in ransom money to free American hostages in Lebanon.

Mr Perot said yesterday he had been contacted by Lieutenant-Colonel Oliver North to provide ransom money. He made no apology. It was Mr Perot, after all, who staged a successful and daring commando raid in 1979 to free two of his company's employees held captive in Iran.

Mr Perot, an outspoken entrepreneur, has been at the centre of national events since founding Electronic Data Systems Corporation, the Dallas computer giant.

As part of the agreement with GM to buy his shares for \$700 million - a price well above the going market rate -



Ross Perot: condemned \$700m "bushmail" buyout

Mr Perot assented not to criticize GM or face a penalty of \$7.5 million. GM confirmed in its press statement yesterday that this was a clause in the agreement.

"Is this greenmail?" Mr Perot was asked. "No, it is more like bushmail, so do not ask questions that will lose me too much money," he replied.

Two years ago, when he sold his company to GM for \$2.5 billion, Mr Perot said he was taking on an exciting new

Smith, GM's chairman, grew stormy.

Describing GM's cars as "over-priced under-achievers," Mr Perot became one of the lead voices in the growing chorus of criticism against the US "corporocracy," a term coined by Mr Richard Darrman, the US deputy Treasury secretary, to describe bloated, unproductive managements.

Mr Perot ridiculed GM for its inability to change with the times and produce cars consumers wanted. "Trying to change GM's corporate culture was like trying to teach an elephant to tap-dance," he said.

He advocated full-scale reforms from his position on the GM board, urging Mr Smith and other executives "on the 14th floor to get down to the real places where people are doing the real work of building cars."

At a news conference, after the buyout announcement, Mr Perot could not resist one last criticism. He described the expensive buyout "morally wrong" at a time when GM was paying off workers, closing plants and scaling back investments in new technology.

**Buyout likely after missed forecast**

By Cliff Feltham

A management buyout is on the cards at Ford & Weston Group, the East Midlands builder and shopfitter, after a warning yesterday that the company will miss its profit forecast by a "very substantial margin."

Those who bought shares, sponsored by Lloyds Merchant Bank, at the 85p placing price when the company was floated on the Unlisted Securities Market in June are likely to be given the chance to pull out on the same terms.

The company had forecast profits for the current year of £925,000 compared with £776,000 last year. Trading in

the shares was suspended last month.

The company admitted that its forecast would be missed because of "serious losses on recently-completed contracts" at one of its subsidiaries in the South-East.

It said: "The trading performance of this particular subsidiary does not affect the performance of any other subsidiary in the group. The group's position remains strong, and the group has more than adequate resources to meet its trading commitments."

The problems apparently relate to contracts entered into with the Miskias offshoot, a Welwyn builder acquired in 1982. Miskias had run into difficulties in the past, but it was expected to return to profit this year.

However, conditions worsened, and losses are expected to dent an otherwise profitable performance by the group.

Mr Edward Stanger, chairman and chief executive said: "It is very unfortunate but we are advised that, in view of the circumstances, it is best to consider giving shareholders the chance to sell their shares at the same price they paid, so that they do not suffer any loss. It is a pity because the

rest of the group is doing so well."

A number of private building companies has also expressed an interest in bidding for Ford & Weston.

The company was formed in 1874, but the real growth began in the mid 1970s with the arrival of Mr Stanger, a Scottish chartered accountant specializing in breathing life into family construction businesses in need of a change of style and management.

He embarked on an acquisition programme, bringing Ford & Weston to the USM to raise money to cut borrowings

BRYANT BRYANT BRYANT BRYANT

**Bryant Holdings**

Turnover £157 million - up 30%

Pre-tax profit £13.5 million - up 16%

Earnings per share 10.3p - up 25%

Total dividend per share 3.7p - up 12%

**Bryant Homes**  
Raising the Standard

A copy of the 1986 Bryant Report and Accounts can be obtained from Chris Bryant,

**Bryant Holdings plc**  
Cranmore House, Cranmore Boulevard, Shirley, Solihull, West Midlands B90 4SD.

BRYANT BRYANT BRYANT BRYANT



COMPANY NEWS

PLATON INTERNATIONAL Interim dividend 1.02p. Figures in £000 for half year to October 3. Turnover 5,020.9 (2,852), pretax profit 413.4 (256.3), tax 84.9 (75.4), earnings per share 7.58p (4.16).

STIRLING GROUP Interim dividend 0.85p (0.6), payable February 20. Figures in £000 for half year to September 30. Sales 18,717 (12,393), pretax profit 1,622 (1,076), earnings per share 5.75p (4.42).

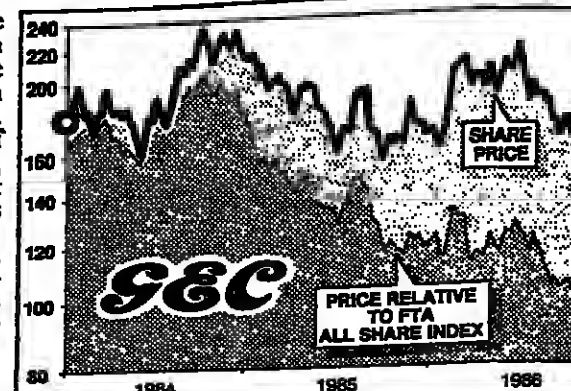
CHELSEA MAN: Interim dividend 0.8p, payable January 20. Figures in £000 for 26 weeks to September 27. Turnover 2,020 (1,364), pretax profit 524 (300), tax 181 (126), earnings per share 3.36p (1.82).

ZYGAL DYNAMICS: Figures in £000 for six months to September 30. Turnover 2,432 (1,640), pretax profit 206 (77 loss), tax debit 40 (33 credit), earnings per share 3.3p (0.9p loss).

DRUMMOND GROUP Interim dividend 1.2p (1), payable September 30. Turnover in £000 for half year to September 30. Turnover 12,839 (10,103), pretax profit 748 (574), earnings per share, fully diluted 8.14p (6.33), The

TEMPUS

Sleeping GEC waits for the Nimrod kiss



GEC managed to confirm the City's worst fears rather than boost its confidence at the company's half-time debut in front of analysts yesterday.

Even Marconi, GEC's star performer, which has enjoyed a 24 per cent increase in its order book is not going to grow by more than 10 per cent. This does not preclude well for the rest of the group.

A fall-off in Middle Eastern engineering activity had an adverse effect on engineering operations while power generation needs a resurgence in activity to boost profits.

The oil flicker of excitement for GEC is the possibility of being awarded the Nimrod contract. The political risk for the Government of choosing the Boeing Awacs E3 system would be colossal.

Although the immediate effect on the shares will be removal of a negative, the effect on trading in the years ahead should be significant. It is well acknowledged that Nimrod has far better export potential than Awacs.

Yesterday's preliminary results when it made only a small profit before interest. But the acquisition significantly increases the group's exposure to oil-related offshore construction.

The first six months of the new financial year are likely to be down on the comparable period of last year. There will be no contribution from the Q2 which is being re-engineered and refitted at a cost of £100 million.

It is early days at John Brown, only three months were included in the 1986 results when it made only a small profit before interest.

Yesterday's preliminary results when it made only a small profit before interest. But the acquisition significantly increases the group's exposure to oil-related offshore construction.

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TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

Table with columns: First Dealings, Last Dealings, Last Declaration, For Settlement. Lists various option contracts and their terms.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Table showing futures prices for various commodities like oil, gold, and currencies. Columns include contract name, price, and change.

MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

Table of money market rates including Base Rate, Treasury Bills, and Euro Money Deposits.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Table of foreign exchange rates for various currencies like Sterling, Dollar, and others.

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Table showing sterling spot and forward rates for different maturities and currencies.

OTHER STERLING RATES

Table of other sterling rates for various international locations and currencies.

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Table of dollar spot rates for various international locations and currencies.

More company news page 25

ARLEN: Interim dividend 1.5p (nil), payable March 28. Figures in £000 for six months to September 30. Turnover 4,979.9 (3,358.0), pretax profit 501.6 (2.2), tax 121.4 (nil).

LABORATORIES: Interim dividend 1.2p, payable January 19. Figures in £000 for six months to September 30. Turnover 1,972 (1,522), profit on ordinary activities before tax 257 (213), tax 85 (91), profit on ordinary activities after tax 172 (122), profit attributable 159 (122), earnings per share 5.1p (3.7).

RECENT ISSUES

Table listing recent issues of various companies, including names, prices, and changes.

RIGHTS ISSUES

Table listing rights issues for various companies, including names, prices, and changes.

Large advertisement for Reuter Monitor with headline 'Keep up with the London markets Real-time refreshed information on Reuter Monitor'.

Table of LONDON STOCK EXCHANGE data including GAT, TSBM, TSCO, THN, TRAF, TRST, ULVR, and U615 with columns for last, bid, ask, close, open, high, low, and volume.

Table of UK EQUITIES and UK GILTS with columns for Type, Page codes, Reference Prices, Contributor Index, Index of Prices, and News.

Table of INTERNATIONAL MONEY MARKETS, INTERNATIONAL GOLD MARKETS, INTERNATIONAL OIL MARKETS, INTERNATIONAL BOND MARKETS, DOMESTIC MONEY MARKETS, INTERNATIONAL FUTURES MARKETS, and INTERNATIONAL EQUITIES MARKETS.

LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

Large table of London Traded Options for various companies like Allied Lyons, BP, GEC, Grand Met, ICI, Land Sec, Marks & Spencer, Shell Trans, Trafalgar House, TSBM, U615, and others, showing call and put option prices.

REUTER MONITOR - THE INFORMATION SERVICE FOR YOUR MARKETS

December 2, 1986. Total contracts 30222. Calls 17224. Puts 13006. FT-SE Index: 10000. FT-SE Index: 10000. Underlying security prices.



waits... od kiss... BOC... CH INDUSTRIALS... GREAT WESTERN RE-SOURCES... TR NATURAL... MONKS & CRANE... JARVIS PORTER GROUP... CHAMBERLIN & HILL... TUNSTALL GROUP... DBE TECHNOLOGY GROUP... EVANS OF LEEDS... LONDON INVESTMENT TRUST... POLAR-PANORAMA-EXPRESS

APPOINTMENTS

Lubrication: Mr Colin Robson becomes director and chief executive. Telford Development Corporation: Mr Frank J Jones becomes deputy chairman. Chubb Lock Company: Mr Graham Davis becomes director. Mr Tony Pearson becomes financial director and Mr Steve Wood works director. East London Telecommunications: Mr Peter Maddock becomes finance director. Plessey Company: Mr David Simon has been made a non-executive director. Mr Derek Mayes and Mr David Day have become executive directors. Cnutts & Co: Mr Roger Flemington has joined the board. Confederation of British Industry's Employment Policy Committee: Mr Geoffrey Armstrong becomes chairman, succeeding Sir Alex Jarrett. United Transport Distribution: Mr Michael Reid has been named managing director. Chancery Securities: Mr Stephen Moad and Mr Craig Reader have become corporate finance executives. KCL Research Enterprises: Mr KW Groves has been appointed director. Thurn EMI Protec: Mr Peter Stanfield has been made personal director. British National Life: Mr Paul Gibbs becomes marketing director. TWIL Group: Mr Dilwyn Scrivens has been made managing director. Tinsley Wire (Sheffield), with Dr Ed-

GT Management wins top rating in Laing review

Alexanders Laing and Cruickshank, the stock-broking arm of Mercantile House, expresses a mixture of caution and optimism for the financial services sector in its latest quarterly review. It is written by Mr Philip Gibbs - recently voted the leading financial services analyst in the Eitel analysts' survey - and states that it is "cautious of the finance houses and bullish of the fund managers and the leasing companies". The review highlights GT Management as the "main buy" recommendation in the fund management sector. The review is not, however, encouraging about M & G, the investment management group. On the recent public offer of most of Kleinwort Benson's stake in M & G, it says: "we are not convinced that the current high rating can be held once the marketability of the shares expands."

Harmony Leisure in £3m USM float

Stanley Lever used £20,000 of savings to launch his own company when he stepped running the Cafe Royal and Henneley Inns for the Trust-house Forte group. Yesterday, he launched his Harmony Leisure Group, a chain of 20 upmarket public houses in central London and the Home Counties, on the unlisted securities market with a price tag of £3 million. Since 1982, turnover has gone up from £2.3 million to £3.8 million with pretax profits rising from £38,000 in 1984 to £65,000 last year. Profits for this year are expected to be not less than £250,000. About 16 per cent of the company's shares are being placed through the broker Le Mare, Martin at 23p each.

BASE LENDING RATES

Table with 2 columns: Bank Name and Rate. Includes ABN & Company (11.00%), Aden & Company (11.00%), BCC (11.00%), Citibank Savings (12.45%), Consolidated Crs. (11.00%), Co-operative Bank (11.00%), C. Hoare & Co. (11.00%), Hong Kong & Shanghai (11.00%), Lloyds Bank (11.00%), Nat Westminster (11.00%), Royal Bank of Scotland (11.00%), TSB (11.00%), Citibank NA (11.00%).

Bank of America aims for growth in China

The troubled Bank of America plans to expand into China despite a large rationalization of its worldwide operations in the wake of mounting losses. The bank is determined to grow in China. Mr Stephen Hunt, vice-president and Hong Kong area general manager, has been in China to reassess its leading bankers. "In order to better serve the China market, we plan to increase the staff force of our China office in Hong Kong," Mr Hunt said.

Indonesia opens up gold exploration

Twelve foreign companies, most of them Australian, signed 34 gold mining and exploration contracts with the Indonesian government in Jakarta. Dr Subroto, the oil minister, said he hoped the deal would turn Indonesia into a major world gold exporter within 10 years. This is the largest number of gold mining contracts signed in the country and cover 30 years. The companies have to sign over 50 percent ownership to Indonesian nationals.

COMPANY NEWS

CH INDUSTRIALS: Interim dividend 0.575p (0.5p). Figures in £000. Turnover 25,141 (14,026) for six months to September 27. Operating profit 1,918 (1,234), pretax profit 1,350 (653), profit attributable 890 (204), eps 2.00p (2.38p), fully diluted 2.9p (2.35p). ATKINS BROTHERS (HO-SIERY): Six months to September 30 (figures in £000). Interim dividend 2.2p (1.7p). Group turnover 10,243 (8,324), pretax profit 458 (213), profit attributable 387 (114), eps 7.51p (2.89p). JOHN MICHAEL DESIGN: Six months ended September 30 (figures in £000). Turnover 1,245 (547), gross profit 660 (349), profit before tax 253 (190), eps 1.95p (1.75p). DBE TECHNOLOGY GROUP: Figures in £000, 28 weeks to October 12 (28 weeks to October 4). Pretax profit 23 (loss) on work done worth 3,016 (1,571), profit attributable 136 (17 loss), eps 1.5p (0.2p loss).

TR NATURAL RESOURCES INVESTMENT: For the six months ended September 30 an interim dividend of 1.75p (1.75p adj) has been declared, payable January 2. With figures to £000, franked investment income was 85.6 (91.3), unranked investment income 1,509 (1,605) and interest from short-term deposits 393 (160). Revenue before tax 2,442 (2,226), corporation tax: 558 (525) and imputed tax on franked income 248 (274). Earnings per share were 2.72p (2.73p) adjusted for one for one capitalization. Net asset value in pence per share: 151.5 (139.2 adjusted). CHAMBERLIN & HILL: For the six months ended September 30 an interim dividend of 1.4p (same) has been declared. Warrants will be posted on December 16. With figures in £000, turnover was 5,375 (5,161), group trading profit 247 (243), interest payable 55 (43), group profits before tax 192 (202), profit attributable were 3.53p (3.42p). The company said a great deal of progress had been made in restructuring the group to meet market needs, but there was no sign yet of an improvement to business which would quickly lead to an increase to earnings. Higher trading profits were offset by higher interest charges, due to the costs of the Westchase foundry development, and the acquisition of Fuller and Poulton at the end of August. The shares were down 2p at 106p. JARVIS PORTER GROUP: An interim dividend of 1.3p will be payable (single dividend of 2p the previous year). With figures in £000, results for the six months to August 31 include: turnover 11,177 (10,463), profit on ordinary activities 1,012 (1,200), an exceptional item (Mango-Web development expenditure of 57), pretax profit 955 (1,280), tax 283 (495), extraordinary credit 481 (nil). Earnings per share were 4.1p (4.3p). The extraordinary item consists of interest earned on speculative monies in the company's offer for sale, amounting to £348,966 net of attributable tax, and £132,079 profit arising from the sale of the group's leasing subsidiary.

MONKS & CRANE: Results for the six months to September 30: interim dividend of 1.1p (nil), payable February 5. With figures in £000, turnover amounted to 13,738 (£11,480), gross profit 2,814 (2,356) distribution costs 472 (382). Administrative expenses were 1,477 (1,222), interest payable less receivable 26 (46), share of loss of associated companies 27 (nil). Pretax profit was 812 (706) and tax 260 (265). Earnings per share were 4.2p (3.5p). The company said prospects were favourable for the second half which traditionally brings higher sales. Branch growth and new acquisitions, would give a wider distribution, based on new product and business areas. LONDON INVESTMENT TRUST: Results for the six months ended September 30 include an interim dividend of 0.36p (0.46p). With figures in £000, turnover was 20,732 (16,287), pretax profit 2,410 (2,007) and tax 910 (792). Earnings per share were 1.65p (1.35p). COUNTRY & NEW TOWN PROPERTIES: The half-year results include an interim dividend of 0.7p (0.6p), payable on January 30. With figures in £000, gross rental income was 5,921 (5,668), surplus on disposal of properties 453 (4,670), profit before tax 1,264 (4,934), tax 416 (1,923) and minorities 272 (216). Earnings per share were 1.27p (1.86p). Results for the full year should show earnings comparable with those reported for the year to January 31, 1986, the company said. EVANS OF LEEDS: Six months to September 30. Interim dividend 1.625p (1.5p), total revenue £4,638,312 (£3,862,963), net revenue after interest and other charges £2,510,181 (£2,264,441), tax 878,624 (£905,776), profit attributable £1,631,618 (£1,358,665), eps 4.97p (4.14p).

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Polar-Panorama-Express 1987. SWITZERLAND - DENMARK - SWEDEN - NORWAY. The first announcement in Great Britain.

reisebüro mittelthurgau. Two years ago, we introduced our special composition including the sleeping-car from the famous Nostalgie-Orient-Express, together with our Dome-Cars, with enormous success. For the third year running, our Polar-Panorama-Express travels the enormous distance between Switzerland and Norway. Over 700 enthusiastic guests now know the unique atmosphere of this Hotel-on-Rails, and appreciate the same feeling one has on a cruise, seeing so much and not having to continuously pack cases and change hotel rooms. It is almost impossible to describe the atmosphere during the evenings (right of course) travelling smoothly along endless lakes and forests. Our Hotel-on-Rails. For over 100 guests, which otherwise 2 coaches would have to accommodate our Panorama-Express consists of: 9 sleeping-cars from the world famous Nostalgie-Orient-Express which are now newly fitted with chemical toilets and partly with showers. This means problems when the train is standing still! Every compartment has a large wash-basin (grand-comfort) - even more than two. 4 Panoramic-Observation-Cars (owned by the Travel Agency Mittelthurgau), apart from the exclusive Vista-Dome-Section, each having a copy bar and 1st class compartments. Meals are served in all these compartments (extra charge for service in the Vista-Dome-Section). Sleeping Car Inside. Who is the Travel Agency Mittelthurgau? We are the subsidiary company of the Swiss Private Railway Company the Central Thurgovian Railway (Constance-Windisch-RO). For eight years now, we have specialised in exclusive rail journeys which is possible thanks to our own Vista-Dome-Cars. These double-decker observation cars are unique in Europe, and were lucky enough to be Dome-Cars. These double-decker observation cars when they were no longer needed for the Trans-Europe-Express (TEE) had to be sold back for the TEE-Reichsgüter, good luck for us and our guests! So that we are able to keep prices within reasonable limits, we have chosen the direct sales method. However, we accept bookings from every good Travel Agency. Our further Hotel-Trains: French and Italian Alps-Panorama-Express 16. - 20. April 1987 from £ 660- £ 1190- 6. - 13. Sept. 1987 from £ 790- 31. Aug. - 5. Sept. 1987 from £ 790-

The virgin land of the North with its famous Midnight Sun, experienced from our unique Hotel-on-Rails. Travelling dates: 24 June - 04 July and 15 July - 25 July 1987. Our Route. We have made every effort while planning the route to include charming regions away from the usual tourist routes, such as the area around the high coast by Kragerø, or the inland journey to the neo-norms in Gauselivare. The optional outings in Copenhagen, Oslo, Stockholm, Kramfors, Vindöla in trip on the rapids or a visit to the Wildlife Park, Gauselivare, Narvik, and to the Lofoten Islands, make this journey an experience that is offered nowhere else! Day 1 London - Zürich Airport. Flight from London to Zürich/Kloten in the morning. Transfer to your hotel in Zürich. Sightseeing tour in the afternoon, after which the time is at your own disposal. Overnight stay in the hotel. Day 2 Zürich - Hamburg - Puttgarden. In the course of the morning, occupation of your sleeping-car compartment. After our Hotel-on-Rails has left the main station, lunch will be served during the journey across Germany. Our train will reach the ferry in Puttgarden at night. Here, the whole train will be loaded into the ferry on rails. Our journey continues northwards when we reach Denmark. After the dinner the night will be spent on board in the sleeping-cars. Day 3 In Copenhagen. After breakfast, which will be served in the Panorama-Car, our train will draw into Copenhagen central station. During an optional sightseeing tour, you will have the chance to get to know the metropolis of Denmark (cost roughly £ 15.-). The free time following this tour will give you the opportunity to explore the city and the famous Tivoli. In the meantime, our Hotel-on-Rails will have travelled by boat across to Helsingør. Towards the evening, we will also cross with the ferry to Sweden in 4 coaches, where our Hotel-on-Rails will be waiting for us. Evening meal will be served while our journey continues. Day 4 In Oslo. Travelling via Göteborg, we will reach the frontier station Charlottenberg in the course of the morning. Our Hotel-on-Rails will stop here for the day, and you will have the possibility to go on an optional coach-trip in Oslo (cost roughly £ 19.- incl. sightseeing tour). As we journey onwards in the evening, a meal will be served on board our train. Day 5 In Stockholm. Arrival at Stockholm after breakfast on board! Here, we kindly ask you to transfer to coaches with handbaggage, as we will spend the night in a hotel in Stockholm as an exception. After an optional sight-seeing tour, which consists of two parts (cost roughly £ 19.-) you will once again have the chance to go to the city. The way of our journey, remaining not included in the arrangement, as you have free choice of restaurant and menu.

mittelhurgau travel agency. Included in the arrangement are: Flight from London - Zürich/Kloten and back - rail journey according to programme B2 in the category booked. 1 night in a hotel in Zürich. 1 night in a hotel in Stockholm in a double room\* with bath and shower/WC, included breakfast - return flight from Narvik - Zürich/Kloten with a special plane from Balair. 20 kg luggage (checked free). all transfers. all taxes and dues. half-board on the whole journey (except on the 1st day in Zürich on the 5th day in Stockholm). English speaking guides will accompany you on the whole of the journey. detailed documents. Not included are: all insurances. meals not mentioned in the programme. your personal expenditure such as for drinks, souvenirs, the usual small tips etc. the optional excursions. Booking form: please cut out and send to mittelhurgau travel agency. P.O.B. 131 CH-8570 Weinfelden (Switzerland) Telephone 0114172 - 22 46 77 Telex 45 - 883 377 Telex 0114 172 - 22 34 07. We notify that we will definitely participate on the journey with the Polar-Panorama-Express 1987 according to the programme. (Please mark with a cross which arrangement you wish to book.) [ ] Journey on 24 June 1987 - 4 July 1987 £ 1390- [ ] Journey on 15 July 1987 - 25 July 1987 £ 1540- [ ] In sleeping compartments with 2 berths, 1 lower and 1 upper berth with wash-basin £ 1540- [ ] In sleeping compartments with upper-berths, 1 lower berth and 2 wash-basins £ 1540- [ ] Single sleeping compartment with wash-basin £ 1390- [ ] Additional cost for a guaranteed seat in one of the Vista-Dome-Section of the Panorama-Cars £ 130.- [ ] Annulment and special return costs insurance (compulsory not existing yet) £ 22.- Please register all names (these prices are of course per person). 1. Surname, 1st Name, 2. Surname, 1st Name, Street, PC/Place, Tel. Nr. during the day. If possible seat in the Panorama-Car [ ] smoker [ ] non-smoker. Please send me the brochure about your other Hotel-on-Rails programmes.







### Portfolio Gold

From your portfolio card check your eight share price movements, on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check it against the daily dividend figure. If it matches, you have won outright or a share of the total prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming.

No.	Company	Group	Gain or Loss
1	Plessey	Electricals	
2	Farnell Elco	Electricals	
3	Western Bros	Building Roads	
4	Accord	Newspapers/Pub	
5	Dunhill	Electricals	
6	Barclays	Bank/Discount	
7	Ultramar	Oil	
8	Amstrad	Electricals	
9	Tate & Lyle	Foods	
10	Joseph (Leopold)	Bank/Discount	
11	Storchouse	Drapery/Stores	
12	Cater Allen	Bank/Discount	
13	Dixons Grp	Drapery/Stores	
14	Ncai	Drapery/Stores	
15	Jarvis (J) & Sons	Building Roads	
16	Jaguar	Motors/Aircraft	
17	BTF	Chemicals/Pet	
18	Nat West	Bank/Discount	
19	Vaux	Breweries	
20	Peetles	Industrial L-R	
21	Hunter Saphir	Foods	
22	Racal Elco	Electricals	
23	Lloyds	Bank/Discount	
24	Burtonwood Brew	Breweries	
25	St Andrew	Motors/Aircraft	
26	Alford	Breweries	
27	Meyer Int	Building Roads	
28	Schroder	Bank/Discount	
29	Anchor Chemical	Chemicals/Pet	
30	Utd Scientific	Electricals	
31	Bluebird Coaf	Foods	
32	BFB Industries	Building Roads	
33	Asley (Laura)	Drapery/Stores	
34	Baggeridge Brick	Building Roads	
35	Scholes (GH)	Electricals	
36	Barran Devs	Building Roads	
37	Young 'A'	Breweries	
38	McIntyre	Property	
39	Hardys & Hassons	Breweries	
40	Nichols (JN) (Vimo)	Foods	
41	Conis Virella	Drapery/Stores	
42	Almance	Industrial A-D	
43	Bristol	Newspapers/Pub	
44	SA Breweries	Breweries	

© Times Newspapers Ltd. Daily Total

Please take account of any minus signs

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £2,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Weekly Total

### BRITISH FUNDS

1986 High	Low	Stock	Price	Change	Yield	Div	Yield
105	105	105	105				
106	106	106	106				
107	107	107	107				
108	108	108	108				
109	109	109	109				
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# STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

## Equities rally

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began on November 24. Dealings end Friday. Contango day next Monday. Settlement day December 15.  
 §Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Where stocks have only one price quoted, these are middle prices taken daily at 5pm. Yield, change and p/e ratio are calculated on the middle price

1986 High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield	Div	Yield
105	105	105	105				
106	106	106	106				
107	107	107	107				
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# The property sale of the century

During the past seven years, the past five particularly, the Government has been undertaking one of the most important aspects of its privatization policy without the publicity hype of the British Telecom or British Gas flotations - the sale of new town assets.

In the seven years the Commission for the New Towns has sold about £500 million of assets. In the next eight years plans are in hand to realize commercial and industrial assets worth another £1 billion.

The commission initially had responsibility for the four original new towns - Crawley, Hemel Hempstead, Hatfield and Welwyn Garden City. It now has 13 of the 19 new towns under its wing and has responsibility for selling its



assets and working itself out of a job.

After a mighty shake-up of its organization in 1982 because of the slow progress it was making - Michael Heseltine, then Environment Secretary, named a new chairman with a stronger remit - the commission claims, justifiably, that it has become a success. The commission can show it has exceeded its annual targets, that there is less criticism from politicians armed with constituents' complaints about delays, and that well over half the assets of the

eight London ring towns have been disposed of - though, of course, there are still problems, particularly with the two new towns in the north-west.

Mr Heseltine's new chairman was Sir Neil Shields, a leading Conservative Party worthy, who served on Hemstead borough council for 20 years. The chief executive was a no-nonsense northerner, David Woodall, a planner with local government experience, being deputy chief executive of Northamptonshire county council before joining the commission.

They inherited a heavily bureaucratic organization, where initial inquiries for acquiring property could be in folders for months, and where even tenants of property were not even fully informed that they had the first option to buy if they wanted. This has now been changed.



Millions of pounds' worth to sell: Sir Neil Shields, chairman of the commission that is disposing of new town assets

Seventy per cent of assets sold have been bought by tenants, deadlines have been imposed on settlements once contracts have been agreed, and there is less of the property dealers' weakness of the fun of the chase - holding back on an asset in the belief that its value will increase. This is not to say

that all the assets are available for sale immediately, an impossibility to a town such as Skelmersdale, which has acres of out-moded factory space to attract clients and is applying next year for a £15 million grant from the EEC Economic and Social Fund for structural changes, or an economic mad-

ness in the south-east, where wholesale disposal of assets would create havoc in the property market.

One of the instructions to the commission was to take care of the market to absorb the sales so that best value could be realized and also to

ensure that ownership was as widespread as possible so that there was no dominant landlord.

When the new broom began to sweep, the commission had the original four towns, plus Stevenage, Harlow, Bracknell and Corby - the latter almost dying on its feet through the closure of its steel production works before being given emergency status to turn round the local economy.

Sir Neil told Mr Heseltine he calculated that most of the assets of the eight towns could be realized over five to six years, but since then the commission has taken over the responsibility for the realization of the assets of Northampton, Redditch, Skelmersdale, Central Lancashire and Basildon.

There are others in the pipeline - Milton Keynes, Peterborough, Telford and Warrington/Ruocorn. No firm dates have been given, as they are all still growing and cooing to be the responsibility of their development corporations. In addition, the Environment Department has granted extensions to the three north-east new towns - Aycliffe, Peterlee and Washington - and a decision has yet to be made on the hand-over of their remaining assets to the commission.

When the commission takes over the responsibility, housing assets are transferred back to either the local council, housing associations, or individual tenants, depending on local conditions.

The overall policy is to give existing tenants first option. One of the changes which have been brought in is that, whereas tenants almost had a gun pointed at their heads by being given about two weeks to make up their minds, the attitude now is that they should have a maximum of three months. If they turn down the option, the commission will seek other buyers such as property investors or financial institutions.

There have been allegations that some tenants have made unacceptable profit by selling

no their properties, but Sir Neil replies: "Every sale has to be defensible. Nobody should make a killing in six or nine months and if they do there is a clawback clause. In the longer term, though, circumstances and values grow."

Himself a management consultant, and therefore an outsider to the property world, Sir Neil has found it a tough industry. "I quickly realized that it is essential to be as tough as the rest. I have tried to jostle a hard-voiced commercial attitude into the commission," he said.

While critics of privatization argue that more money could have been earned if the Government had retained sites and developed them itself, Sir Neil says: "The New Towns and Urban Development Corporations Act presupposes that there is no need for a public role. Our sole

Sales to June topped £100m

remit is to sell properties as soon as possible, but at a proper price."

This year the commission announced that agreed sales of commercial and industrial property and land in the year up to June had topped £100 million, almost double the previous year's figure, and £33 million above target.

Top of the league table in sales was Bracknell, Berkshire, with sales worth £26.5 million, second was Hemel Hempstead with just over £19,250,000. But such league tables invite unfair comparisons with towns such as Skelmersdale which realized assets of only £491,418, live in a cold economic climate - unemployment is 25 per cent.

Sir Neil says the new towns were created to found a new environment. He says: "They have achieved this in the sense that every one of the south-east towns has less than the regional average unemployment level. Of course, some, like Skelmersdale, have not managed this. That has been a hard nut to crack."



The commission is responsible for 13 of the 21 new towns.

Town	Takeover date
Basildon	Apr 1986
Bracknell	1982
Central Lancs	Jan 1988
Corby	1980
Crawley	1980
Harlow	1966
Hatfield	1962
Hemel Hempstead	1965
Northampton	1985
Redditch	1965
Skelmersdale	1980
Stevenage	1980
Welwyn Gdn City	1966

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Prestel: #28884#

Basildon Bracknell Central Lancashire Corby Crawley  
Harlow Hatfield Hemel Hempstead Northampton Redditch  
Skelmersdale Stevenage Welwyn Garden City



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### THE NEW SUCCESS STORY

- S Situated on its own motorway (M58) linking it to the national motorway network system.
- U Under Regional Development Status, the only area offering 15% Development Grants and selective and EEC assistance, in Lancashire.
- C Centrally located within easy access of the Liverpool Container Port and Manchester and Liverpool airports.
- C Clubs - The West Lancashire business club, Business advice Centre and an Enterprise Trust offer the first time businessman valuable assistance.
- E Environment and quality of life in West Lancashire is excellent. You will find it a great area to live and work.
- S Skilled labour force of 43,000 with an excellent labour relations record.
- S Success - why not join us - just like people such as the National Farmers Union did. They chose Skelmersdale for their new regional headquarters: a site was found, and the deal completed, within 3 weeks.

## WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE PART OF IT?

Contact Chris Heppenstall, Assistant Economic Development Officer, West Lancashire District Council, 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk, L 39 2 DF. Tel Ormskirk 77177 Ext 342

Handwritten Arabic text at the bottom of the page.



FOCUS

COMMISSION FOR THE NEW TOWNS/2

# Tale of two towns with a lot to offer

One day last week more than 100 businessmen from the north-west met in Bohio to hear the tale of two new towns: Skelmersdale and Central Lancashire.

Both places, having known better times, were embarking on a venture to encourage investment in their communities by buying or leasing commercial and industrial assets owned by the Commission for the New Towns.

It is a tough operation in a region suffering the sharp end of the economic depression. Skelmersdale, with unemployment running at 25 per cent, is the hardest out to crack. The rate in Central Lancashire is 11.7 per cent.

The fading dreams of Skelmersdale, between Liverpool and Manchester, are best illustrated on a map in the boardroom of the commission's local office.

Designated in 1961 with the intention that it would provide both housing and employment for people from the congested areas of north Merseyside, its original planned population was 80,000. This was then reduced to 60,000 and later still to 40,000.

Today the commission is charged with disposing of some 150 acres of undeveloped residential land and 130 acres of industrial sites, but its first task has been to try and bring confidence back to the town by creating a better environment and regenerating the local economy.

Its main shopping centre is being given a £1 million facelift and a further £500,000 is being spent on two neighbouring centres.

John Leigh, the commission's executive officer for the town, said: "We have to make the people feel better and that Skelmersdale is a good place to live. The commission feels it has a social responsibility to the town as well as the job of disposing of our property."

Mr Leigh details improvements. He is grateful that the regional National Farmers' Union is to locate its headquarters in the town, a fact which will not greatly enhance

employment prospects, but which could be seen as a symbol that there is confidence in the future.

Skelmersdale's problem was that it was geared to be a manufacturing town but this never happened because of the recession. "Let's face it," says Mr Leigh, "the development corporation put all its eggs in the manufacturing basket and the handle fell off."

The commission's role has been to switch the emphasis away from manufacturing towards high tech and the



**All the eggs were put into the manufacturing basket — and the handle fell off**

service industries, not easy when the speculative advance factories built by the corporation were geared to manufacturing.

The units that were built are far too big to attract service-oriented companies and developers, which is why Skelmersdale is seeking a £15 million grant from the EEC Economic and Social Fund so that the units can be cut down to more manageable and saleable sizes.

Though there is only about 30 miles between Skelmersdale and Central Lancashire — its boundaries cover 50 square miles and encompass Preston, Chorley and Leyland — there is no clash between them in seeking clients for commercial and industrial property and land.

"We are not fishing in the same pool," says Brian Birtwistle, the commission's executive officer for Central Lancashire. "We have different opportunities to offer. Though, like its near neighbour, it is not easy."

Both suffer from the national syndrome that 75 per

cent of companies which wish to expand or relocate themselves look within a radius of only 42 miles and that 50 per cent are reluctant to go beyond a 12-mile limit.

In a depressed area like the north-west, getting companies or developers to move up from the south has to be considered as a bonus.

Central Lancashire came within the commission's ambit only this year. Its first task was to dispose of 5,500 houses which went to housing associations, with the agreement of the local council, for about £90 million.

With industrial and commercial assets to be disposed of worth about £50 million the commission, taking over from where the development corporation left off, is spending £17 million on an infrastructure programme, such as building new roads to open up its 250 acres of land set aside for industrial development and 400 acres for residential development.

The commission has also inherited industrial estates on which there is advance building waiting to be let or sold, the largest a 50-acre site formerly owned by Courtaulds which closed its factory and was redeveloped by the development corporation. Its occupants range from multinational companies to one-man bands.

It is a town which has had to live with redundancies, not only those from Courtaulds, but also British Leyland where, last week, a further 1,000 were made jobless.

But at the same time the commission is developing areas. Last month it announced plans to redevelop the former British Leyland North Works at a cost of around £5 million, the plan involving almost 90 houses and bungalows for sale, together with a commercial office block.

Brian Birtwistle says: "We see our function as not only creating jobs by attracting further investment to the town, but also preserving those that we have already. There is no shortage of skilled labour and we are attracting interest from both manufacturing and service industries,



Findings jobs at Skelmersdale presented problems, but further south, "selling" Harlow (top) was easier

from light engineering and chemicals to distribution companies."

Back at Skelmersdale, which was transferred to the commission in 1985, there are already some 170 companies established in its main industrial areas occupying more than 200 factory units.

In its attempts to boost morale, the commission, together with the local council, has brought together 200 local businessmen to form a Chamber of Commerce — remarkably this was never en-

## The crisis at Corby

When the Commission for the New Towns inherited its second tranche of new towns from the development corporations in 1980 it found itself with a potentially disastrous employment crisis on its hands — Corby, the steel town that no longer was.

The closure of the British Steel metal production works — the town was built round steel — threatened local unemployment of 30 per cent.

The commission had an emergency on its hands. Its role for the town was changed. No longer was it a remit to realize its assets, but to cooperate with the local council to rescue the close-knit steel-making community from disaster.

The task was to bring in new jobs, new industries, even a new life into the town.

Six years after the crisis Corby boasts the creation of more than 5,000 new jobs (though some were to disappear) with some 250 new firms coming into the area. About 400 acres of land was set aside for industrial and commercial development, 175 acres of which have already been sold, an indication of the remarkable turn-around.

While no one pretends that Corby is out of the woods — unemployment is still running at 17 per cent — there is a greater confidence in the town than there was even three years ago.

To overcome the initial crisis, an alliance was created between the local and county councils, the departments of Trade, Industry and the Environment and the commission, who formed themselves into an Industrial Development Committee.

The town was immediately designated a development area, with all that this implied in the way of government grants, Euro-loans, and other financial incentives to attract new industries and industrialists. Later it was made the first Enterprise Zone, again allowing it to offer more financial inducements.

Sir Neil Shields, the commission's chairman, expresses particular pleasure at what has been achieved in Corby, but it has not been easy: "In five years I have seen the tragedy of the people in the

### Bottom fell out of the market

commission working flat out to attract 5,000 jobs only to lose 2,500," he says.

The case of Commodore, the home computer manufacturers, is a classic example. They took a 200,000 sq ft factory in the enterprise zone only to see the bottom drop out of the home computer market. "How could we tell?" asks Sir Neil. "You have to welcome employers."

But while steel tube-making confines at Corby, the town has diversified its interests. The potato and other crops from the surrounding agricultural land help to sustain, and attract, the food manufacturing and processing industries.

There are companies involved in engineering, electronics, packaging, clothing, cosmetics and printing. In total there has been well over £500 million of investment in the town.

been short of more recent problems. It had the idea of selling off its shopping centre, not as a job lot but in four or five parcels, which it valued at some £25 million, but the local council upset the plans by selling off a large development area it owned — ironically the site of the old steel works — to ASDA to build a superstore.

As a shopping attraction it was an inevitable rival for custom. Now the commission is planning to refurbish parts of the town centre before selling its assets.

The commission will give first choice to sitting tenants, encouraging them to form consortia to buy blocks.

Graham Lloyd, the commission's executive officer, in explaining the advantages of Corby in attracting new industries, apart from the financial services, points out that it is a central location in the heart of England, making it a natural "warehouse" for distribution companies. Oxford University Press, as an instance, has established its national distribution centre in the town.

Mr Lloyd says that the commission, having realized about 2 million sq ft of industrial commercial space, has a further 2 million still to dispose of, but is confident that the assets will be realized.

"There has been a continuing demand for industrial sites for owner-occupation," he says. "It is an indication that Corby has overcome its crisis and that there is confidence in the town, not only in industrial and commercial development but also in the growth in demand for private housing and land."

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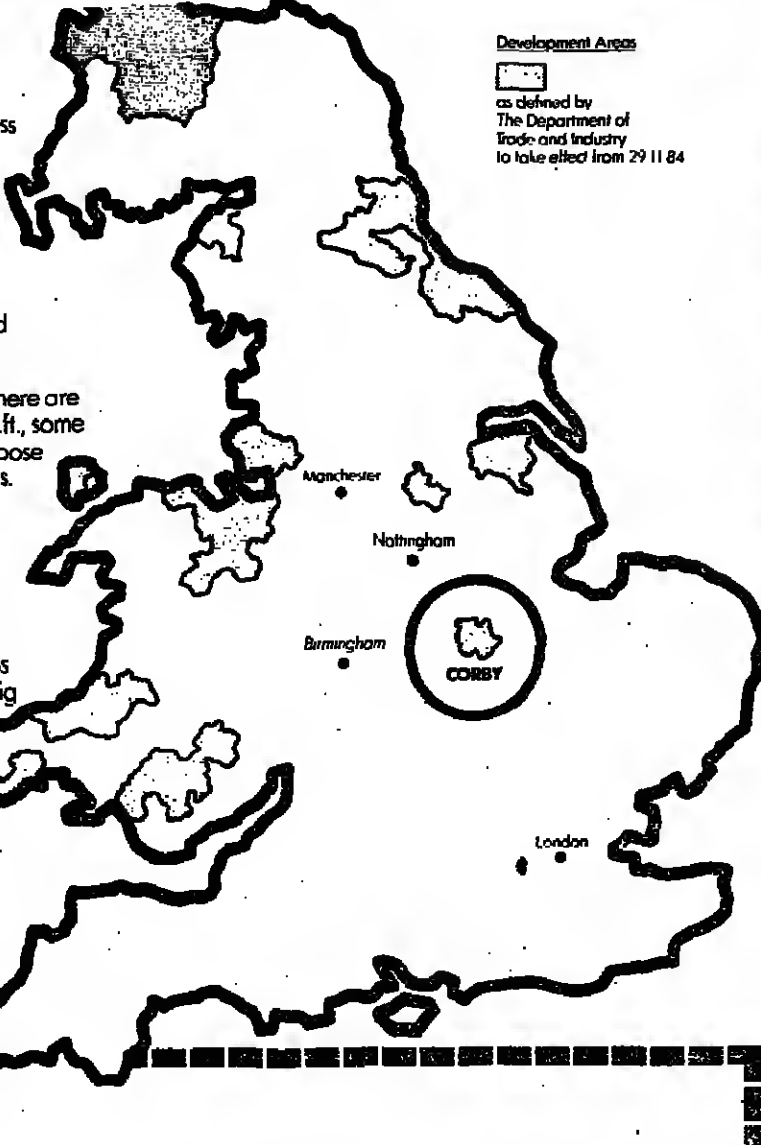
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# A new ring of confidence around London's eight new towns



While the M25 orbital motorway has brought a ring of confidence for the future development of London's eight new towns, it has proved a boon for the Commission for the New Towns in realizing its industrial and commercial assets.

With so many potential clients knocking on the commission's door in the prosperous south-east it might appear to be an easy task to carry out its remit, but it is not as simple as it seems.

"Imagine what would have happened to property values if all the assets were available at the same time", says David Woodall, the chief executive. "The market would slump and the taxpayer would not be getting value."

Which is not to say that the commission has not been aggressive in its marketing; only phasing in property when the time is thought ripe. To have done otherwise would only have over-heated the local economies, creating in itself problems when one of the functions of realizing assets is to hand back to the local council and the community a stable environment.

Each of the eight towns has had its own problems which have had to be fitted into a strategy.

Harlow, for instance, has not been a runaway success in the

## No inquiries are turned away

disposal of assets, as has some of its orbital counterparts, but that is not because its amenities are less favourable than others.

While the commission has not turned away inquiries — in the last accounting year 1985-86 agreed sales were worth £7,197,250 — Mr Woodall agreed that they were not exactly aggressively marketing the town in the knowledge that it would become an even more attractive proposition with the M25 completion and the development of Stanstead Airport.

Basildon, which came under the commission's umbrella in April, has been a late developer, but with the completion of the ring road — seen by



Guiding light: James Grafton, director of promotions for the Commission for New Towns

## The drive to push north

When the new towns of the Midlands and the north of England became the responsibility of the Commission for the New Towns, the commission changed its strategy. As an organization, it became unique, with a breadth of assets and experience way beyond that of any private property company.

But how to weld that into a whole? How best to promote the benefits and attractions of the towns north of Watford as well as those in the warmer economic climate of the south?

One of the first decisions was to create a national property centre at Metro House, in London's West End, which has become the heart of the commission's promotional strategy. It also gave nearly £1 million — to project Skelmersdale as much as Stevenage, Redditch as well as Crawley.

The job is not easy. James Grafton, director of promotions, says: "North of Watford we have to organize how best to attract clients to what we have to offer, whereas around London we have to organize the queues of buyers."

developers as bringing "eastern promise" — it is felt that it has already made considerable advances from a low base.

Howard Thomas, the commission's head of estates, says: "So far there has not been a lot of sales in Basildon. It has been a late developer compared with the other towns in

Potential investors, as well as those considering relocation or expansion, are able to gain rapid access to the commission's assets through information stored on computer and, under the advice and guidance of the staff, to select suitable land or premises to visit.

The major obstacle in promoting the more hardpressed northern and Midlands towns is that 75 per cent of companies move within a radius of only 42 miles when they want to expand, or relocate, and that 50 per cent want to move only 12 miles.

But the commission property centre can count successes because it is a national focus of the commercial and industrial assets it has available for disposal up and down the country.

These assets range from office space from 300 sq ft to more than 50,000 sq ft and land from one-quarter of an acre to more than 200 acres. Sales range from £20,000 to what the market will take.

The commission's operational activities can be roughly divided thus: when it is in-

volved in leasehold it operates as its own agent through the national and town offices; when it is involved in selling assets it brings in private sector agents to conduct the transactions.

Each town has its own office working in conjunction with the local council through a liaison committee. David Woodall, the commission's chief executive, explained: "Our role is to disengage ourselves from the towns by handing assets back to the community through their democratically-elected bodies."

The commission has a unique portfolio of properties and, through its London bureau, plans to attract national and international companies seeking to locate or relocate.

Sir Neil Shields, the commission's chairman, says: "The bureau also plays an important role in establishing and sustaining institutional interests in the commission's towns. Institutions in the past have been a little blinkered in their attitude to investment in the new towns and this we intend to change."



David Woodall, the new towns' chief executive constructed with high alumina cement and are now deteriorating.

The commission is winding down its operation in Hemel Hempstead and making more land available as well as selling off assets with first refusal, as elsewhere, going to existing tenants.

Hatfield, to the north, still has an estimated one-fifth of its industrial and commercial assets and land to be realized. It has resolved problems that bedevilled the last remaining development site, but it has encountered one difficulty

which illustrates how strategy can sometimes be upset by local factors.

Welwyn Hatfield district council announced plans to develop a scheme at Hatfield which included a hotel, ice rink, offices, garden centre, residential units and a shopping centre based on leisure goods. Ostensibly, an admirable project, but the commission objected because of the potential impact on its own interests on another of its towns, Welwyn Garden City.

The recent outcome of an inquiry found in favour of the district council, highlighting a general problem faced by the commission: when it takes over the role of a development corporation, the planning rights fall within the responsibility of the local authority, not with the commission.

It is a policy which has given rise to a few difficulties in the past, but has since been rectified with other new towns falling within its remit. When it took over responsibility for disposing of the commercial and industrial assets of Bracknell and Central Lancashire this year, the commission retained some of the planning rights.

Welwyn Garden City, seen by many as the home of the new town movement, has a project for redeveloping the local railway station, including a shopping centre, which is now in jeopardy. The commission needs to consider the prospects of finding any other significant retail scheme in Welwyn Garden City. Certainly it is going to be more difficult.

There is also a long-term need for redevelopment of the

## Rent reviews helped assets

pre-war parts of the town's industrial area. While proposals are under consideration, it is expected that it will be sometime before a start can be made. But the commission says that existing pre-war factories continue to be let on a short-term basis.

Stevenage, further up the A1, has had to suffer closures by companies such as Kodak, Bowaters and British Visqueen in recent years, producing a higher unemployment ratio than most of its orbital new town counterparts. Some of the vacant sites have been converted by new owners into smaller units, other still remain to be realized and developed.

But a major round of rent reviews has meant that the capital value of several town centre blocks have been maximized and should be capable of realization during the next year.

While the commission reports satisfactory progress in realizing assets in Stevenage there is a hurried review in 1985 review an example of how it sometimes has to deal with local authorities in attracting clients.

Sainsbury's put up a scheme to develop an area for a superstore and filling station, and the commission, delighted with the proposition, sought the local council's planning permission.

No objections were raised, provided that the developers also included a community centre, a play centre, a doctor's surgery, a public house and sheltered accommodation.

The scheme is to go ahead, with everyone benefiting, the commission realizing a valuable asset, Sainsbury's acquiring a prime site, and the community getting additional



West Midlands: attractive office space (top) is available at Ipsley Court, Redditch. Below: Sir Gordon Roberts, CNT board representative for Redditch (and Basildon) discusses computers with Boon Yeng, one of the early tenants at the Rubicon Centre, Redditch

## When space gets tight, the Midlands has room

What do you do when your company is successful, needs to expand, but you have run out of space? The answer, head for a new town. Which is why, last week, a Birmingham shop-fitting company took its employees on a familiarization tour of nearby Redditch.

Tony Ham, vice chairman of AMS Group Ltd, which includes many household retailing companies among its customers, said: "We hope to take our entire work force with us from the King's Heath area when we move and with a continued growth of the group we expect to recruit more people in time."

The group's decision is the latest example of growing interest in Redditch as the Commission for the New Towns sets about realizing its industrial and commercial assets.

Redditch, like Northampton, and Skelmersdale in the north-west, was transferred to the commission about 18 months ago along with an unusually high number of residential ground-leased properties.

Its first priority was to launch a major programme to provide information and encouragement to leaseholders to buy. The market demand for new housing development sites remains strong and the commission has been able to sell several serviced sites.

There was also a lot of vacant factory space, of which the commission was able to dispose of one-third within six months.

The commission believes that the town's attraction as an industrial and commercial location will be enhanced with the opening of the M42 extension. But getting people to move to the new town takes time.

Tony Ham said: "We looked round the

region for nearly 18 months before we found a suitable new location. We decided on Redditch because of the availability of ideal premises and its close proximity to the national motorway network."

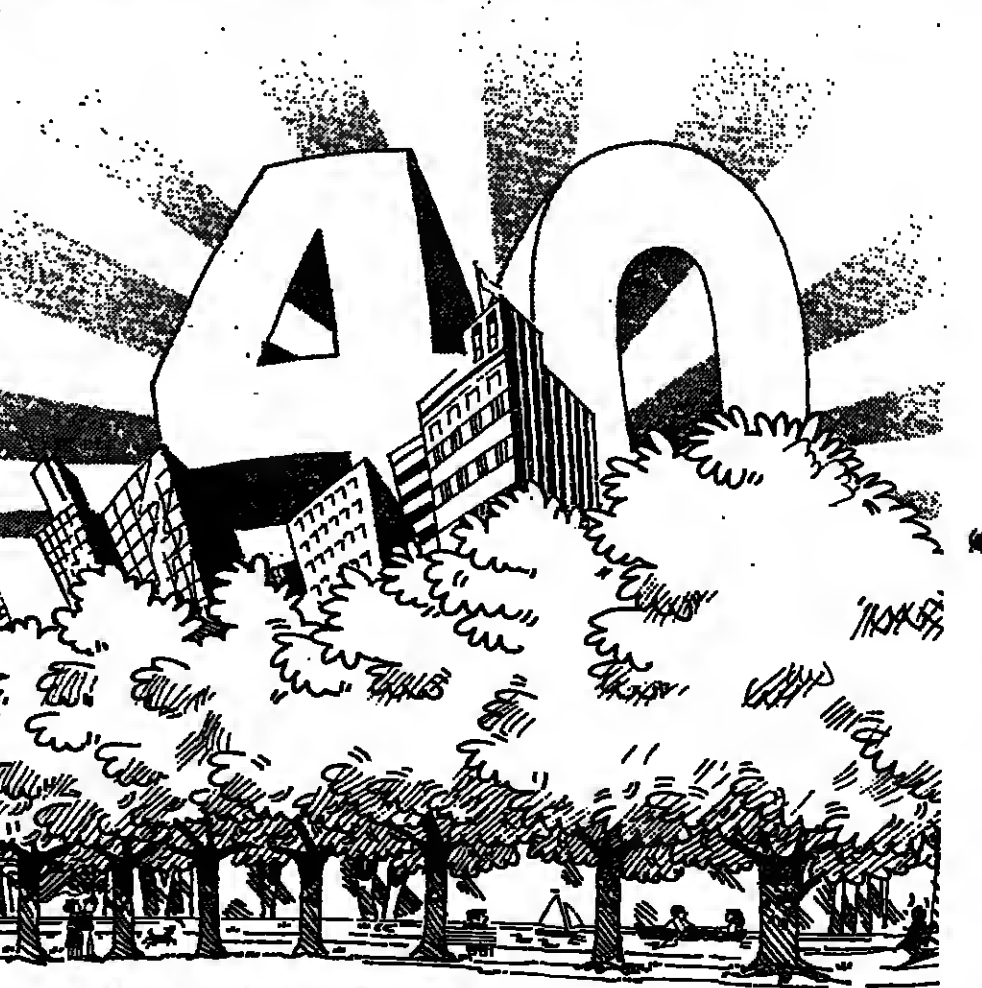
Northampton, by tradition, has been a prosperous commercial and industrial centre and the commission's portfolio includes both industrial development land and vacant industrial premises. It also inherited a large amount of agricultural land which was considered surplus to requirements for expansion.

Sited on the M1, almost halfway between London and Birmingham, Northampton was designated a new town with the directive of providing homes and jobs for Londoners.

Between the time of designation in 1968 and 1981 some 15,600 homes had been built. The town's industrial sites cater for a wide range of companies and a big programme of office development has also enabled some major companies to relocate or expand activities.

One of the latest moves by the commission has been to apply to the Northampton borough council for planning permission for major new leisure and entertainment facilities. The proposals envisage a lake and marina with possibly a link for boats on to the river Nene, tennis courts an indoor cricket stadium, ice rink, multi-cinema and motel.

David Woodall, the commission's chief executive, believes the proposals, which could create up to 1,000 extra jobs, would "enhance Northampton's retail status by complementing existing traders, and provide a wide range of leisure facilities which could extend into a major tourist attraction."



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Crawley, whose industrial base is the work generated by nearby Gatwick Airport, also has the added bonus of access to the M25. A major redevelopment of the town centre is taking place and more development land is to be released on to the market.

The commission says it is anticipating even greater demand for its own warehouse development, the Gatwick Distribution Centre, as the airport continues to expand.

Bracknell, to the west, sits in the "Golden Triangle", close to Heathrow, the M4 and now the London orbital motorway. With a population — now more than 50,000 — 10 times what it was when first designated a new town, it supports new industries involved in electronics, chemicals, engineering, computers and food processing.

With a highly-skilled labour force, the commission finds little difficulty in realizing assets when it sees fit to release them on to the market. Apart from speculative private enterprise development, much of the considerable building taking place in the town involves the redevelopment of premises sold by the commission.

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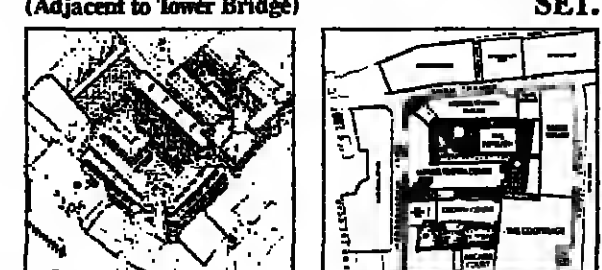
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E.14. SPECTACULAR WATERFRONT Apartment overlooking Greenwich Palace. 2 Bedrooms, 20' Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Luxury Bathroom, Shower Room, Central Heating, Garage. £159,500.

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E.14. RIVERSIDE PIED-A-TERRER Ground Floor Newly Constructed Apartment. Fitted Bedroom, Lounge with access to Patio, Excellent Kitchen, Bathroom, Heating. £95,000.

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RESIDENTIAL, SW11 Lovely quiet family house, 4 Beds, 3 Baths, Shower, Closets, Double Garage, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st, 32nd, 33rd, 34th, 35th, 36th, 37th, 38th, 39th, 40th, 41st, 42nd, 43rd, 44th, 45th, 46th, 47th, 48th, 49th, 50th, 51st, 52nd, 53rd, 54th, 55th, 56th, 57th, 58th, 59th, 60th, 61st, 62nd, 63rd, 64th, 65th, 66th, 67th, 68th, 69th, 70th, 71st, 72nd, 73rd, 74th, 75th, 76th, 77th, 78th, 79th, 80th, 81st, 82nd, 83rd, 84th, 85th, 86th, 87th, 88th, 89th, 90th, 91st, 92nd, 93rd, 94th, 95th, 96th, 97th, 98th, 99th, 100th.

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# LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

## Marketing Manager's Secretary

c.£9,000

Our client is a major international manufacturer and distributor of a wide range of pharmaceutical products based to the west of London, whose Marketing Manager now has an immediate need for an experienced secretary.

Applicants should have excellent secretarial skills, including word processing and shorthand, and have the ability to work on their own initiative ensuring that the office operates effectively at all times. You will have had at least 5 years' previous relevant experience and be looking for a job which will involve you fully in the Marketing Division. In addition to a competitive salary we offer a range of benefits such as L.V.s and non-contributory Pension and Life Assurance Scheme.

If you are looking for a job with challenge and variety, and are able to assume responsibility, then please send your C.V. to: Confidential Reply Service, Reference AWM 9557, Austin Knight Advertising Limited, 17 St. Helen's Place, London EC3A 6AS.

Applications will be forwarded directly to the client concerned. Therefore companies in which you are not interested should be listed in a covering letter to the Confidential Reply Supervisor.

**Austin Knight Advertising**

## SECRETARY/P.A. TO MANAGING DIRECTOR

Our client, a prestigious high-tech industrial company with a Swindon-based European HQ, has recently entered considerable expansion. Their success, combined with financial promotion, has created two exceptional opportunities for Secretaries with the skills, the ambitions and the personal qualities that could flourish in a thriving environment.

### PERSONAL ASSISTANT/SECRETARY TO MANAGING DIRECTOR

UP TO £10,000 GRADUATE - FRENCH SPEAKING DEVELOPMENT PROSPECTS

Apart from the modern basic secretarial requirements of W.P. operation and audio typing, applicants should be of graduate calibre, aged 25-35, and have good oral French. Personal presentation, social skills and an outgoing personality are sought to work at this senior level, along with the intellectual ability to organise and co-ordinate a demanding work schedule.

In return, we offer a competitive salary with development prospects in a rapidly expanding organisation. Fringe benefits are attractive and include 5 weeks holiday, subsidised restaurant, pension and life assurance schemes. (Reference number 512)

### SECRETARY TO SALES AND MARKETING DIRECTOR

UP TO £9,000 - DEVELOPMENT PROSPECTS

Applicants should be of A level standard with a secretarial qualification. European language skills would be an advantage but not essential. Organizational and presentation skills are of prime importance but the successful applicant must also have the personality and personal presentation skills which this post demands. (Reference number 513)

Relocation expenses will be paid if necessary.

Send your detailed CV (including appropriate reference number), plus a recent photograph to Sue Bailey, AJD Recruitment, Room on Grange, Bournon, Swindon, Wiltshire SN6 5HE.

**AJD RECRUITMENT**  
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## Directors' Secretary

Victoria up to £12,000

Required by B.A.T Industries p.l.c., one of the U.K.'s largest groups, at their Head Office in Victoria Street.

You will work for the Finance Directors, providing professional secretarial support. There will be a considerable workload of meetings and international travel to co-ordinate.

You will not only have first class secretarial skills but also the maturity and experience necessary for dealing with company matters and people at Board level in the U.K. and worldwide.

Attractive major company benefits include free lunches, flexible hours, interest-free season ticket loan and a non-contributory pension scheme.

Please telephone or write to Kim Howard for an application form, Personnel Department, B.A.T Industries p.l.c., Windsor House, 50 Victoria Street, SW1H 0NL. Tel: 01-222 7659.

**BAT INDUSTRIES**

## INTERNATIONAL SECURITIES P.A./SEC TO MD

£12,000 + Banking Benefits

A leading investment bank in EC2 is looking for a P.A./Secretary to work closely with the M.D. and his small Securities team. We require someone who has both the diplomacy and authority to deal with people at all levels, and the ability to provide essential administrative and secretarial back up to the team. Age range mid-late 20s. Skills 100/60/WP. City background preferable. Please telephone 588 3535.

## Crone Corkill RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

### COLLEGE LEAVER TO £10,000

Do you want to understand what your boss is doing? Do you like the idea of a people oriented job? Then join this small, friendly Executive Search Consultancy as a flexible member of their successful team. They ask for 'A' levels, accurate typing and the ability to project a professional but welcoming manner to clients and candidates. For more details call 437 6032.

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## Personnel Secretary

Salary to £9,500 pa

Robson Rhodes is a major firm of chartered accountants with 17 UK offices employing some 750 staff, of whom about half are based in our London office.

We are currently seeking a smart, self-motivated and well organised secretary to work for the London Personnel Manager and Personnel Officer.

You should be educated to O Level standard, including Maths and English. You need to have had secretarial training followed by at least two years' experience. A minimum typing speed of 60WPM is essential and some word processing experience - but training will be provided for the AES+ and for use of our computerised personnel database system.

You should enjoy working in a busy environment and be able to liaise with all levels of staff.

Please apply in writing with concise CV to:

**ROBSON RHODES**

Chartered Accountants

Miss J Wilkinson, Personnel Officer  
Robson Rhodes, 186 City Road, London EC1V 2NU

## SAVILLS

Savills is a dynamic and fast moving firm of surveyors covering all areas of the property market. We can offer stimulating jobs at competitive salaries in friendly busy teams.

We are looking for enthusiastic partner/director level secretaries who enjoy involvement, client contact and thrive on hard work. Excellent skills and a willingness to turn your hand to anything are essential.

**CORNHILL, EC3** - particularly busy commercial office - City experience useful. Skills used include Wang, audio and some shorthand. **SLOANE STREET, SW1** - House department - team of three need a good secretary who has all the qualities listed above and also enjoys administration.

**KENSINGTON, W8** - this residential office opened in July and is already expanding. Bright secretary required to help two negotiators in the Flats section.

**GROSVENOR HILL, W1** Commercial - two openings. The first demands initiative, proven Board level experience and organising ability (mainly shorthand). The second would suit a less experienced secretary who prefers a 9 to 5 routine. Both use Wang.

Country House Residential - rare opportunity to join this extremely popular department. Skills needed include Olivetti, shorthand and audio.

Please apply in writing with full curriculum vitae to the Staff Secretary, Christine Townsend.

30 Grosvenor Hill, Berkeley Square, London W1X 0HQ  
01-499 8644

French Pharmaceutical Company based in Paris seeks

## Bilingual secretary

English mother tongue, fluent French, with excellent secretarial skills and preferably one year's experience.

Her function will involve:

- follow up of scientific or administrative files.
- word processing.
- organising meetings, telephone, telex.

The successful applicant will be adaptable, will have a very good education and a cheerful nature. Scientific studies of medical interest would be an asset.

Good working conditions. Salary x 13 months. Social benefits. Bonuses. Pleasant environment.

The interested candidates are invited to send their handwritten application with full details together with a recent photograph to Media-System, 2 rue de la Tour-de-Dames, 75009 Paris, FRANCE, quoting reference 1754 on the envelope.



## SENIOR SECRETARY

An experienced and well-qualified Secretary is required by leading Employer's Association. The work is varied and demanding and involves the provision of secretarial support to three industrial relations executives, arrangement of conferences and appointments and other administrative duties. You must be used to working on your own initiative and first-class organisational ability is essential, together with word processor experience (preferably IBM Displaywriter). Preferred age 25-35, although applications from those outside this age range will be considered.

The job offers a good salary, five weeks holiday and subsidised staff restaurant.

Please write for further details, enclosing your CV to:

Mr C G Pope  
Deputy Director & Secretary  
ENGINEERING EMPLOYERS LONDON ASSOCIATION  
23 Essex Street STRAND London WC2R 3AR

## STOP SEARCHING Up To £13,000 + Bonus

Do you have the enthusiasm and flair to be a member of a young dynamic team in a highly successful executive search consultancy? If so, join this leading international firm in W1. Working for two consultants you will be completely involved at the highest level with prestigious clients and candidates where discretion and charm are essential. There is potential to undertake independent research while providing fast efficient secretarial support (audio, 65 typing, 80sh, WP). Graduate preferred, immaculate appearance and a cheerful and positive approach essential. Age 23-33. Please ring 434 4512.

**Crone Corkill RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS**

## INTERNATIONAL HOTEL GROUP

This leading International Hotel Group have an opening in their Chief Executive office for a young secretary who is looking to move straight to the top. Working at their prestigious Mayfair head office which is the heart of the growing company, you will need to be able to handle extremely confidential

matters. The person must have the sophistication to deal with V.I.P.'s and an ability to communicate at all levels is essential. Skill 90/50, ideal age early 20's. Excellent benefits include discount on hotels in the UK and abroad.

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The Head Office of Branded Restaurants, part of the Beml & Host Group, have recently moved into new offices in Uxbridge. As you might expect from one of the leading companies in the leisure sector, working conditions and benefits are really first class.

## SECRETARY/PA to Personnel Director

To provide a confidential secretarial service and also to become involved in some aspects of personnel administration. This position will suit someone with at least five years' high level secretarial experience, good interpersonal skills and a strong sense of commitment.

## SECRETARY to Commercial Director

In addition to first class secretarial skills, you should be numerate, a good administrator and be able to work under pressure. The person appointed will also be required to work for other senior managers within the Division. Good people skills and the ability to work on own initiative are essential.

Familiarity with word processing would be an advantage. Excellent salaries are offered and extensive fringe benefits include 22 days holiday and L.V.S.

Please send your detailed c.v., including current salary, to Tina Willoughby, Branded Restaurants, Oxford House, Oxford Road, Uxbridge UB8 1HX.

## Director's Secretary

Search for Excellence  
£12,000 neg

This international firm of executive search consultants base their 35 years success on a reputation of professionalism towards both clients and candidates. They specialise in senior level assignments in a wide range of disciplines.

Two senior level consultants in the London office require a junior PA who understands the need for excellent communication skills, discretion and first class presentation. The job entails being conversant with all systems and a willingness to deal with any situation as it arises. In return the successful applicant will enjoy total involvement in an energetic and friendly environment.

Applicants will have fast, accurate typing (70-wpm), excellent English and be educated to at least 'A' level standard.

Age indicator: 25-35.  
Please telephone 01-437 1564

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01-584 9033 TM INTERNATIONAL RECRUITMENT LONDON W1

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## PRIVATE SECRETARY £15,000 + Bonus

A Company Director of a well known organisation is looking for a top class P.A./secretary to help him organise his business and private engagements. You will be arranging his meetings and many social functions in England and abroad which would mainly be related to his new business ventures. You will need to be flexible as 20% of your time will be spent out of the office. Up to 26, 120/60.

## COSMETICS WC1 £10,000+

A young MD of a cosmetic company is urgently looking for a young dynamic P.A./secretary to help run his busy office. You will be dealing with clients - department stores and retail outlets as well as the manufacturers both in person and on the telephone. You will also be helping him with the P.R. and marketing of the products. A fast brain and good secretarial skills are a must. c.22, 100/60

Please call us for an interview until 6.30pm.

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Launch your career on a high note by coming to see us to hear about all the super jobs we have to offer. Our clients range from property, personnel and P.R. to banking and investment. With good skills, smart presentation, good educational background and lots of enthusiasm, the world is your oyster. Ring us now on:

434 4512 588 3535  
West End City

**Crone Corkill RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS**

## PR & ADMIN PA £15,000

This leading public company seek a PA to their Managing Director. Take on a dual role as you assist with arranging conferences, company dinners and assume responsibility for office administration. Aged 27-40, good shorthand & audio skills required.

## CHAIRMAN'S PA £13,000 neg

With 10 years' experience, join the Chairman of the Public Company. Organising sporting events - Derby, Royal Ascot and Ladbroke, fine position with high 25% secretarial contract. Aged 25-40, 100/60 skills are required.

## PROPERTY MANAGEMENT £12,000 - £14,000

Your first task on joining this newly appointed Director is to help find new office space from the outset with projects, dealing with all aspects of their numerous sites and properties. Good secretarial skills are sought. Call 629 8863

**HODGE RECRUITMENT**

## AUTUMN CLASSICS

### OUT IN FRONT! to £11,000

A calm approach, lots of stamina and a Secretarial track record will set the pace in this Senior role demanding sound administration. Get off to a flying start by applying to Ref: (G) 551/04003.

### ON THE BALL! to £11,000

Get involved as one of a small, friendly team. A Secretarial all-rounder is needed, bright and confident, able on occasions to substitute for others and run the office. Ref: (A) 552/02002.

### SMASH HIT! £10,000

Promotion is difficult to achieve, so a newly established, progressive Sales Consultants require a keen Senior Secretary whose initiative, Administrative strength and energy will help market many prestigious products. Ref: (B) 551/04012.

### SKILLFUL! £9,000

Provide the Administration skills for Departmental Managers and you'll be more than a match for this Covent Garden based high tech company. Your organisational ability will earn a benefits package including sports club membership. Ref: (F) 551/04015.

### TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENTS!

There is a demand for experienced Secretaries and WP Operators skilled in Hermes Topronic, Lextron, Digital Decimates, Wordplex and Norsk Data Mini Computer Systems with Lotus WP Program.

### PLEASE PHONE OR CALL IN TO:

131/133 Cannon St, EC4 Tel: 625 8315  
22 Wornwood St, EC2 Tel: 638 3845  
185 Victoria St, SW1 Tel: 628 3845  
19/23 Oxford St, W1 Tel: 437 9330

## Challoners

## LEGAL SECRETARY SW9

Otis Elevator plc, the international leader in the lift and escalator industry, requires an experienced Legal Secretary to assist our Company Secretary.

You will have a minimum of 5 years' experience in legal environments, have above average secretarial skills, be an adept organiser and be educated to 'A' level standard. You will also have good Audio Typing and Word Processor skills.

We are offering an excellent salary as well as all the benefits usually associated with a large, progressive company. To apply, please send your cv, or write for an application form giving salary expectations to:

Paul Gross, Personnel Officer,  
Otis Elevator plc, 43-59 Clapham Road,  
London, SW9 6JZ.

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## OTIS

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## TEMPS

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We visit all our clients and interview all our candidates to ascertain individual requirements. Please call us for interview on 581 3977 or 589 0909.

## SECRETARY/PERSONAL ASSISTANT

Our client is a leading international company with a reputation for excellence in the field of property, personnel and P.R. to banking and investment. With good skills, smart presentation, good educational background and lots of enthusiasm, the world is your oyster. Ring us now on:

434 4512 588 3535  
West End City

**Crone Corkill RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS**

## RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

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Call in strict confidence  
Amanda Newell or Mark Madsen on  
Call 629 8863

**HODGE RECRUITMENT**

Handwritten signature or note at the bottom of the page.



# LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

## TELEVISION SECRETARY IN MARKETING

Our Marketing Services Executive has a demanding and highly specialist role, with responsibility for the administration of a number of Committees within the marketing field of Independent Television.

Working as her Secretary is a challenging role, and to provide the high level of support needed you should be educated to 'A' level standard, numerate, and have good, accurate shorthand/typing skills - min. 90/50 w.p.m. You should also be capable of using your initiative, have an excellent telephone manner, and at least one year's experience in a broadcasting environment.

Salary will be in accordance with age and experience. If you would like to apply, please write, enclosing your curriculum vitae, to:-

The Personnel Officer,  
Independent Television  
Companies Association Ltd.,  
Knights House,  
56 Mortimer Street,  
London,  
W1N 8AN.

WE ARE AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER.

Independent Television Companies Association

## MULTILINGUAL SERVICES

### THINK AHEAD

There are lots of Bi-lingual Secretarial jobs for next year - junior, middle and senior. For instance, you could use:

**GERMAN and FRENCH** with an International Bank in the City working for a Director. You would need to be 23 to 30 and able to cope with a lively crowd who live on their nerves, do lots of organising, have English shorthand (but you wouldn't use it much) and there is a junior secretary and he is very flexible about hours. The job would lead far and meanwhile pays £11,000-£12,000 plus banking package and overtime pay.

**FRENCH** as top dog in a medium-sized, super-busy firm (which means overtime). Lots of scope to develop a new job in beautiful Mayfair office. We are looking for someone with excellent English and French, who wants to be committed to their career and who would be generously rewarded. English shorthand of course.

**JAPANESE** as secretary in corporate finance or as a researcher in the same investment house.

01 836 3794

22 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0HR

## PA/SECRETARY

The Company Secretary and Controller of Legal Services is seeking an experienced PA/Secretary with excellent secretarial skills.

This is a management appointment requiring someone with discretion and diplomacy, who is literate, can communicate clearly and with confidence, and can handle a busy administrative workload on his or her own initiative. Experience of working at board-level is expected.

Please send your full cv, to arrive by 17 December, to Helen Auty, Personnel and Training Manager, LWT, South Bank Television Centre, London SE1 9LT.

An equal opportunities employer

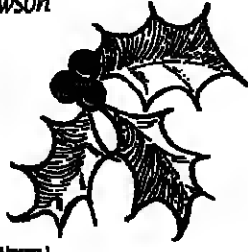
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Telephone Sally Dowson on 01-439 0601.

MacBlain Temporary Secretaries



## NO SHORTHAND to £10,500

Join this very prestigious firm of Mayfair estate agents as secretary to their senior partner. He would like the kind of PA who is keen to get to know his clients projects in hand. Somebody with a flair for organising and getting things done. Modern offices and informal atmosphere. 60 wpm audio ability needed.

## YOUNG BANKING SECRETARY £9,500 + BENEFITS

Join this leading international investment bank as secretary on the fast moving trading floor. You'll need a lively outgoing personality as you provide secretarial and administrative support to the team. Superb benefits include free fares to work, generous bonus and mortgage subsidy. WP and 90/60 skills needed. Please telephone 01-248 3531.

Elizabeth Hunt

Recruitment Consultants  
18 Grosvenor Street London W1

ADVERTISING £11,000+ M.A. of all agency in W.C.2 in looking for a PA for their Sales Director. Lots of excellent secretarial candidates must be 1st class and have previous ad. exp. Spoken 100/60 wpm.

ADVERTISING £10,500 Personnel ad agency on looking for a PA for their Sales Director. Lots of excellent secretarial candidates must be 1st class and have previous ad. exp. Spoken 100/60 wpm.

PROPERTY/ADMINISTRATION £7,500 Secretary required to work for London association of large, prestigious property co. based in W1. Excellent benefits and pension. Must have good typing skills. Future prospects for administration or property role if successful. 100/50. Interested candidates: Sarah or Cindy (Act)

DAVIS CO SECRETARIAL 01-734 6652

c.£9,000 KENT Kingsdown is a Stockist and Trading house situated near Maidstone, dealing in the export of motor spares. We require a mature and efficient administrative who will also supervise staff and be willing to use their own initiative. Skills where necessary in a fast moving and pressurised environment. For an application for and further details please contact Mrs Victoria Gallagher on 0782 844572.

THE ROYAL OPERA HOUSE has an immediate vacancy for a Junior Secretary in the Assistant Director's office. Fast accurate typing and some shorthand required. College leaver with good skills and some work experience considered. Applications with full CV and telephone number to: Personnel Manager, Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London WC2E 9DD by Monday 22nd December.

## WANTED

### A new band of angels in Oxford Street

Very soon after the twelfth night, the twelfth branch office of Office Angels will open its heavenly doors in Oxford Street. Which is excellent news for employers in Central London and even more exciting to the Capital's temptresses and full-time job seekers who seem to have taken to 'the Angels' warm, sympathetic and winning manner in a big way! And we now need three more 'Professionals' to complete this angelic team. Educated (minimum 'O' levels, 'A' levels even better), articulate (your verbal skills and presentation are key) and with a foodness for people (despite human idiosyncrasies), you should be in the 23-35 age group. Your experience could be in a caring profession, sales, personnel or a secretarial background. Your future could be stimulating, frustrating, depressing and gloriously uplifting - all in the same week, month and year.

Dependent upon the skills and experience you bring us, your remuneration will be no less than £10,500 (from Day One) and could reach £18,000 by next Christmas. Please write to me, in strict confidence, with brief career details:

Laurence Rosen, Chief Executive,  
Office Angels Limited,  
37 Golden Square, London W1R 4AL  
Or telephone Maureen Donnelly,  
Director, on 01-734 1200



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EMIL MUSIC LIMITED



Chancery Division

Law Report December 3 1986

UK tax relief for Jersey partnership Costs in divorce case can be claimed

Padmore v Inland Revenue Commissioners Before Mr Justice Peter Gibson (Judgment December 1)

United Kingdom resident partners of a partnership that was managed and controlled in Jersey were not liable to United Kingdom income tax on their shares of the partnership's profits.

Mr Justice Peter Gibson so held in the Chancery Division in a reserved judgment allowing an appeal by Mr Maurice Padmore from a determination of a single special commissioner.

The taxpayer was a United Kingdom resident and a member of a partnership the business of which was controlled and managed in Jersey.

The partnership, carrying on a business of furnishing a world-wide renewal service for patents, trade marks and over 140 partners, the majority of whom resided in the United Kingdom.

The partnership had always been carried on from St. Helier, Jersey, and its day-to-day management carried on by two partners who were resident in Jersey.

In December 1979 a tax inspector refused to allow a claim by the taxpayer under section 47 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970 for relief from United Kingdom income tax in respect of his share of the partnership's profits for the years from 1974 to 1979.

Mr Peter Whiteman, QC and Mr Patrick Soares for the taxpayer Mr Andrew Padmore and Mr Alan Moses for the Crown.

MR JUSTICE PETER GIBSON

Whether the term "Jersey enterprise" could include the business of a partnership as such. He concluded that it could because a partnership was a person or body of persons with residence in Jersey by reason of the management and control of the partnership in Jersey.

2 Whether the exemption from United Kingdom tax of the profits of the partnership extended also to each of the individual United Kingdom resident partner's share of such profits. He concluded that it did not because a partner had an enterprise but by reason of the residence of the United Kingdom resident partner, it was not a Jersey enterprise and so the taxpayer's share was liable to tax.

Mr Whiteman supported the commissioner's conclusion but submitted that he had erred on the second question because no partner had a business separate from that of every other partner of the partnership.

Mr Park attacked the commissioner's conclusion on the first question, submitting that a partnership for the purposes of the Arrangement was not a "person" or "body of persons" and that the partnership did not have a residence in Jersey. He did not seek to support the commissioner's reasoning on the second question but said that the conclusion reached thereon was nevertheless correct.

His Lordship said that a partnership was a "body of persons". It was highly improbable that partnerships were in-

tended to be excluded from the Arrangement. Moreover as a matter of the ordinary use of language a partnership was a body of persons.

More difficult was the question of whether for the purposes of paragraph 3 of the Arrangement a partnership had a "residence" and if so what was the test to determine such residence.

The commissioner on that point had been correct in deciding that an assessable entity had to be treated as having a residence somewhere and that such residence was to be determined, as it was for companies, by the control and management factor.

Turning to the second question that the commissioner had to determine, the point was essentially a short one. The starting point was the language of paragraph 3(2). That was unequivocal in its meaning.

All the profits of a Jersey enterprise were not to be subject to tax save only to the extent that they were attributable to a permanent establishment in the United Kingdom.

It was implicit in paragraph 3(2) that a share of the profits was exempted if the profits themselves were exempted. How could a share of the profits not be exempt when all the profits were exempt?

The conclusion was that paragraph 3(2) was intended to exempt United Kingdom income tax the share of a United Kingdom resident partner of the profits of a Jersey partnership. It followed that the taxpayer's appeal was allowed.

Fritchard v J. H. Cobden Ltd and Another Before Lord Justice O'Connor, Lord Justice Croom-Johnson and Sir Roger Ormrod (Judgment November 26)

Although when the injuries sustained by a plaintiff resulted in the breakdown of his marriage, the plaintiff was not entitled to claim the financial loss arising from the provisions made in matrimonial proceedings as a head of damages in a personal injuries action, the court nevertheless had a discretionary power to order the defendant in the personal injuries action to pay the tax costs of the plaintiff's divorce.

The Court of Appeal so held refusing an application by the defendant J. H. Cobden Ltd and Malcolm Cyril Parrott for an order for costs in an appeal where their Lordships on July 30 reduced the damages awarded to the plaintiff Vivien Joan Fritchard (The Times August 27).

Mr Piers Astworth, QC and Mr Benjamin Browne for the defendants; Mr William Crowther, QC and Miss Rossalind Foster for the plaintiff.

LORD JUSTICE CONNOR said that the plaintiff's costs "such costs in an accident. The defendants admitted liability and the only question at the trial was one of damages."

Some years after the accident, while the personal injuries action was still awaiting trial, the distinct documents each of which is complete.

To that case there had also been disclosure on discovery and the court had not drawn any contrast between the two: see also General Accident Fire and Life Assurance Corporation Ltd v Manchester (1984) 1 WLR 100, 114. The evidence before the court went nowhere towards establishing different subject matter or different incidents.

MR JUSTICE HIRST said that there was no relevant distinction between the situation in the present case and disclosure of part of a document by counsel in open court which the Court of Appeal in Great Atlantic Insurance Co v Home Insurance Co (1981) 1 WLR 529 held resulted in a waiver of privilege of the entire contents of the document "unless the document deals with separate subject matters so that the document can in effect be divided into two separate and

plaintiff's marriage broke down as a result of brain injuries he had suffered.

The parties had thought that the position was covered by Jones v Jones (1985) QB 794 and that any financial provision arising out of the divorce which could be said to be a burden on the plaintiff could be passed on to the defendant.

There was no guidance in the Jones case as to how that should be dealt with. Since the size of the plaintiff's claim was to be governed by the provisions for his wife, it was thought that the two proceedings should be heard by the same judge at the same time.

Mr Justice Swinton Thomas heard the matrimonial proceedings and the personal injuries action. Costs were incurred by three parties.

The judge decided that £53,000 of the provisions made in the matrimonial proceedings for the wife should be passed on to the defendant.

As far as costs were concerned, the parties handed in an agreed order. In those circumstances the order of the court was made in favour of the plaintiff and provided that damages totalling £434,126 together with interest of £16,806 be awarded to the plaintiff.

The order further provided that the defendant do pay the plaintiff's costs "such costs in an accident. The defendants admitted liability and the only question at the trial was one of damages."

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Domestic violence is no mitigation Improper observation to the jury

Regina v Cutts The fact that a serious assault occurred to a domestic scene was no mitigation whatever, and no reason for proceedings not being taken and condign punishment following in a proper case.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Lawton, Mr Justice Michael Davies and Mr Justice Roch) so stated on November 20 when dismissing the appeal of Harry Cutts against the sentence of 18 months imprisonment imposed on him on June 18, 1986 following his plea of guilty on May 21 at Acton Crown Court (Judge Palmer) to an offence of causing grievous bodily harm to his wife, contrary to section 20 of the Offences against the Person Act 1861.

MR JUSTICE MICHAEL DAVIES said that it was high

time that the message was understood in clear terms by police officers and, above all, by husbands and boyfriends of women, that it was no mitigation of a serious assault that it had occurred in a domestic scene.

That did not mean, of course, that for every tiff in which a slap was exchanged or given by one to another the involvement of the police and prosecution ought to follow. That would be taking what their Lordships had just said out of its context and out of proportion.

But the idea that in some way serious assaults were rendered trivial because of a relationship of marriage or friendship was completely outdated. In a proper case proceedings should be taken, and condign punishment should follow.

Regina v Smith (William) Regina v Doe It is improper for a judge in summing up to a jury to make the observation that when a submission had been made at the close of the prosecution case that there was no case to answer, if he had not thought there was sufficient evidence of identification available to the jury, he would have withdrawn the case from them.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Watkins, Mr Justice Drake and Mr Justice Ognall) so stated on November 25 when allowing the appeal of William Smith and Henry Doe against their convictions on July 24, 1986 in Reading Crown Court (Judge Elison and a jury) of burglary.

LORD JUSTICE WATKINS said that submissions of "no case to answer" were made in

the absence of the jury, and the question as to whether or not there was a sufficiency of evidence was one which was exclusively for the judge.

His consideration of that question and his decision should not be revealed to the jury lest it wrongly influenced the conclusion that, because the judge had been satisfied that there was enough evidence for them to consider, there was enough there on which they could convict.

In the circumstances of this particular case, however, that observation standing by itself would not be a reason for declaring that the verdicts were unsafe or unsatisfactory. Unfortunately, much had gone wrong in this trial, which had been a difficult matter for the judge and counsel in some respects.

Waiver of privilege Spent convictions

Pozzi v Eli Lilly & Co and Others The disclosure of part of a letter pursuant to a general order of discovery in the course of litigation between the parties constituted a waiver of privilege in respect of the whole contents of that letter.

MR JUSTICE HIRST so held in the Queen's Bench Division on November 26 in a judgment in which he was joined by Lord Justice Croom-Johnson and Lord Justice O'Connor.

MR JUSTICE HIRST said that there was no relevant distinction between the situation in the present case and disclosure of part of a document by counsel in open court which the Court of Appeal in Great Atlantic Insurance Co v Home Insurance Co (1981) 1 WLR 529 held resulted in a waiver of privilege of the entire contents of the document "unless the document deals with separate subject matters so that the document can in effect be divided into two separate and

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# Scots show how to ease the burden

## THE GREAT RATES CRISIS IN SPORT

### Grass-roots sport is under attack from the town halls of Britain. Heavy increases in the rates imposed by local authorities has forced many sports clubs to consider cutting back on their facilities at a time when there is public demand for more of them. In his second and final article on the threat to sport, John Goodbody studies the present figures and the future effect

The fear is creeping through the committee meetings of thousands of amateur sports clubs in England and Wales. Many are already struggling to survive because of the acute increase in their rates. But worse may yet come. In Scotland clubs often pay six or seven times more than similar organisations south of the border. The Government has promised there will be harmonization of sports clubs' rates throughout Britain in 1990.

"In my experience when the word harmonization is used by local and national governments, it always means a levelling up not a levelling down. We are very worried," Peter Lawson, the secretary of



Peter Lawson: "Sport belongs to the masses. There are a lot of votes for the party which provides what they want." (Photograph: Paul Lovelace)

the Central Council of Physical Recreation, says. So worried has the CCPR become that in October it led a delegation of officials to talk to members of all political parties at the House of Commons. Mr Lawson reports that Neil Kinnock was "sympathetic and understanding," Jeffrey Archer, in one of his last duties as vice-chairman of the Conservative Party, was "helpful" and Dr David Owen, of the SDP, was "interested." Only the Liberals were "indifferent."

The CCPR is now girding itself for a campaign that is being waged with striking success in Scotland. At the heart of the problem is the fact that local authorities have the discretion to give rate relief. This is not mandatory and the rates vary from one region to another according to the council's policy. The anomalies between Scotland and the rest of Britain only came to light when a rates demand for £5,500 arrived on the desk of Alex Kilgour, the treasurer of Kirkcaldy Rugby Football

Club. This represented an increase of more than £1,200 in only a year. The high amount was because of the 1984 property revaluation in Scotland in which the rateable value of sports clubs was based on the estimated capital value of the property. Mr Kilgour found that a rugby club of a similar size, like Keighley in Yorkshire, was only paying £350 while some of the leading English clubs were paying less than Kirkcaldy, a Scottish National League third division club which has not had an international player since 1925.

Northampton and Leicester were paying £2,651 and £3,500 in rates respectively while Bristol had to find £4,000. Whereas Bristol had a bar turnover of £129,000, Kirkcaldy's turnover was £24,000. It was not confined to rugby. As Mr Kilgour investigated he found other ludicrous disparities. Abercorn Tennis Club in Edinburgh, with five tennis courts, three squash courts and a pavilion, paid £6,500 while Winchester Tennis and

Squash Club, with 19 tennis courts, eight squash courts and a pavilion was paying £3,000. The Glasgow Academical Club, with three rugby pitches, a cricket square and four squash courts, was paying £16,500 while the MCC, whose ground is the most famous in cricket, was paying £25,700 for Lords. Mr Kilgour found allies everywhere. The treasurers of other sports clubs were equally disgruntled and backed the campaign led by Alan Grosset, the chairman of the Scottish Sports Association, Bill Mann, a former president of the Scottish Cricket Union, and Mr Kilgour.

Results followed. In Fiffe, Kirkcaldy's own region, the local authority finally succumbed to the sustained pressure from nearly 100 clubs. It gave full relief to unlicensed clubs and half to those with bars. Kirkcaldy itself was completely removed from the valuation roll after an appeal based on a Scottish local government act which said that buildings and public parks were free from rates if their use was ancillary to the park. If this may have widespread effect in Scotland, the law does not apply to England and Wales.

Although the struggle is being fought and sometimes won north of the border—the campaigners have a meeting on Friday with Mr Malcolm Rifkind, the Secretary of State for Scotland—it has hardly begun in England. The CCPR wants 100 per cent mandatory rate relief for all sports clubs. Mr Lawson says: "Sport belongs to the masses—the masses who vote. There are millions of members of ordinary sports clubs in Britain. There are a lot of votes for the party which provides what they want."

# GOLF Olazabal favoured to pip Clark for Masters invitation

By Mitchell Platts

Jose-Maria Olazabal, the young Spaniard who enjoyed an outstanding first season as a professional, is the European player most likely to be given a special invitation to the 51st US Masters at Augusta National, Georgia, on April 9 to 12. Hord Hardin, chairman of the Augusta National Golf Club, said: "It would be hard to pass him by unless in checking his record we discover something that might deter us."

Bernhard Langer, the champion in 1985, and Severiano Ballesteros, the winner in 1980 and 1983 have automatically qualified, along with Sandy Lyle, David Curry, the 1986 Amateur champion, is also set to join Garth McInnes, the 1985 Amateur champion, in the field. The British champion is historically awarded a place for two successive years and Olazabal, the Amateur champion in 1984, played at Augusta the following year, although he was ineligible this year as he had turned professional.

Hardin stressed that no decisions had been taken regarding the additional invitations which are to be awarded. Olazabal, however, made an astonishing impression on the golfing world with his victories in the Ebel European Masters and Sanyo Open on the way to finishing runner-up to Ballesteros in the Epson Order of Merit with record winnings for a "rookie" of £136,775. Even so the likelihood of Howard Clark being rewarded

# Britain lags behind

Women's professional golf in Europe is growing at a remarkable pace, but still fails to attract huge galleries in Britain. "We attract huge crowds in Europe but the British are rather blasé," Beverly Lewis, chairman of the Women's PGA, said when she announced yesterday that the 1987 tour's prize money would top £1 million for the first time.

The Belgium Open had 9,000 on one day last year, but we need to publicize ourselves much more on this side of the Channel," Mrs Lewis said. The WPGA have appointed their own press officer but are still holding back on the possibility of pre-qualifying for their tournaments, except when daylight hours cause the field in be restricted. "We may face that possibility one day, or start an all-exempt tour," Mrs Lewis said.

The 1987 calendar lists 20 events between April and October with four more possibilities which could take the prize money up to £1,250,000. The European Masters at Borås in Sweden tops the list with £110,000, followed by the British Women's Open on £100,000. "The hope of playing for £1 million was a dream only a few years ago; now it is a reality," Mrs Lewis said.

# BOXING: AMERICAN HAS LEARNED TRADE IN TOUGH SCHOOL

## Lively Boston may upset tea party for confident Christie

By Srikanth Sen, Boxing Correspondent

Errol Christie, having found a foothold in the door of the World rankings at No 10 in the International Boxing Federation ratings, has a chance to impress the other two world bodies, the World Boxing Association and World Boxing Council, against Charlie Boston, of New Jersey, the WBC No 12, at Alexandra Pavilion, north London.



Christie: sharper punching

After his brilliant win against Sean Mannion, the world-rated light-middleweight, Christie has regained much of his confidence shattered by the eighth round defeat by Mark Kaylor last year. Under Jimmy Tibbs, his new trainer, Christie is expected to have sharpened up his punching. According to Tibbs, Christie "will do a good job on Boston tonight."

Christie showed against Mannion that he is most effective when attacking in short, sharp bursts or when his opponent comes on to his quick combinations. It will be interesting to see whether he can draw Boston on to his shots. Christie has so much natural talent that he should be able to do so.

Although Boston has had only 15 bouts, losing three, he should be a good test for Christie. Last April, Boston knocked out in eight rounds Dwight Davidson, the former world No 1 whom Tony Sibson beat on points in 1982. Boston lost a split points decision to Doug De Wit who recently tested Thomas Hearns. Christie has been watching Boston's two contests and was suitably impressed.

# AMERICAN FOOTBALL

## 49ers lose thrust as sleepy Giants wake up and secure play-off place

By Robert Kirby

Joe Montana, the quarterback of the San Francisco 49ers, offered a terse evaluation on Monday night. "It seemed like two different games." There was just one result, of course: the New York Giants beat the 49ers 17-17 in the National Football League match. The Giants survived an abysmal first half and scored touchdowns on their first three series after the interval to secure at least a wild-card berth in the play-offs.

The importance of the match has not been lost on the Redskins. Dexter Manley, the Washington defender, said the game would be "like the Super Bowl." The Redskins have won five consecutive games since losing to the Giants on October 27. "I want to be no other place in the world than at RFK stadium next Sunday," Manley said. "If I win the \$44 million jackpot, I don't think I'd show up to pick it up."

Teams eliminated from contention for the play-offs are the Buffalo Bills, Houston Oilers, Philadelphia Eagles, Pittsburgh Steelers, San Diego Chargers and Tampa Bay Buccaneers. The Miami University quarterback, Vinny Testaverde, who is expected to win the Heisman Trophy as the finest

# BASKETBALL

## Stayaway McNish spoils his chances

By Nicholas Haring

Colin McNish's failure to attend two training weekends has cost the left-hander Patrick Kingston forward, the chance of extending his England career in the four-nation Pohjanjo tournament in Finland later this month.

McNish, aged 26, who failed to score in his only previous England game against Switzerland at Leicester in February, wanted another opportunity after missing the European Championships in Denmark during the summer because his mother was ill in Trinidad. David Timmons, the new England coach who watched McNish help Kingston reach their successive cup final in Scotland, was so keen to give him that chance that he made special arrangements for the player to attend the northern training camp for England possibilities at Oldham after he had missed the weekend of southern players in Hertfordshire.

"I'm very disappointed that he didn't bother to attend," Timmons said. "He's my type of player. I think that he could help England. I couldn't pick him after that. I wanted to pick players that I had worked with. I arranged the camps carefully so that they would not clash with league games but of the three Kingston players I invited, only Kenny Scott turned up. The door is not closed to them but they will obviously have to attend in future."

McNish has a chance to get back into the good books of Timmons, though not immediately, after the squad leaves by attending a third training camp on December 21. "It's most likely I'll be there," he said yesterday. McNish explained that he had missed the first camp because he was ill and the second because there was no one to transport him from Kingston's game at Leicester to Oldham as he had promised. "I was all packed up and ready," he said, "but when I saw there was no one there I went back with the team."

# TENNIS: KRAMER'S BRAINCHILD HAS COME A LONG WAY SINCE 1970

## Masters puts its teething troubles behind and comes of mature age

From Richard Evans, New York

It was a bizarre and somewhat inauspicious birth—an ancient, dimly-lit auditorium in a Tokyo suburb where we sat huddled under blankets watching Jack Kramer's brainchild struggle for life.



Nastase in bad old days of clowning and temper that nearly brought the Masters to its knees

That was in 1970 and since then the Masters has proved to be a difficult and often unprofitable, hampered, perhaps, by a constant switch of homes and parental sponsorship as it lurched through a controversial adolescence.

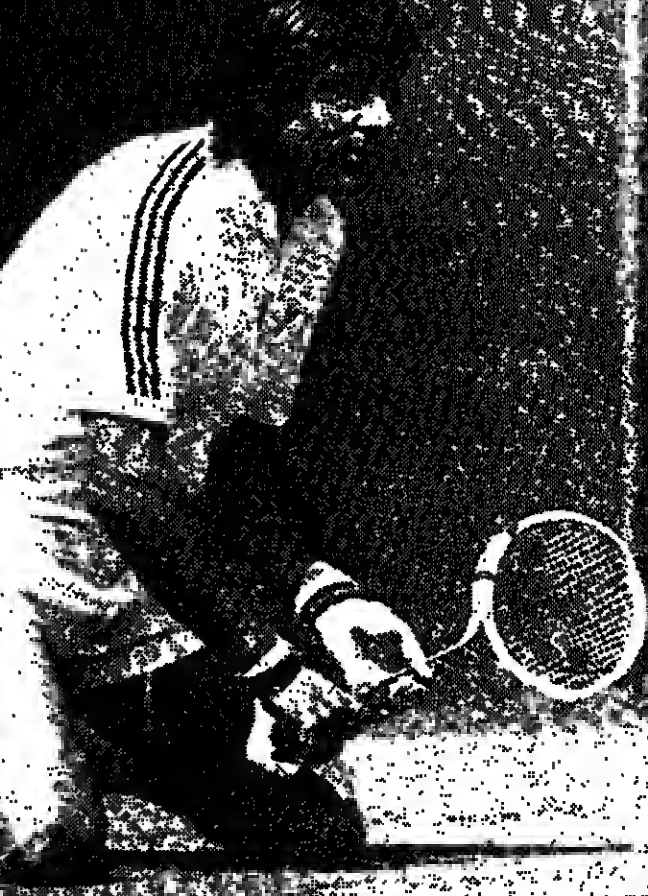
It is a little surprising, therefore, that the event which opens at Madison Square Garden today is at last showing signs of growing up. Not only has the date been changed from January to December to link it to the same year as the Grand Prix tournaments which provide its qualifiers, but the format has reverted to eight-man round robin after much flirtation with 12 or 16-man knockout competitions.

Quite rightly, Eugene I. Scott, who took over as tournament director last January, felt that an eight-man field gave the tournament a more elite feel and that the round robin concept would enable the star-conscious New York crowd to watch the likes of Boris Becker and the reigning Master, Ivan Lendl, at least three times, win or lose.

What Scott did not foresee was that, John McEnroe apart, American players would fade so quickly from the game's elite. With Jimmy Connors missing out by one place, Scott has been left with the first Master's history not to include an American player.

Scott, a former US amateur real tennis champion and Forest Hills semi-finalist, is, however, too urbane and sophisticated to let that be a cause of more than passing regret. He merely accepts the irony of McEnroe's observation a few weeks ago when the three-times Masters winner said: "I helped advocate the changes that have been made but, as a result of not playing for the first half of the year the only person who has been hurt by them is me."

Had suspension not intervened McEnroe would normally have still managed to qualify if the Masters had remained a 16-man event. Such problems were far from the thoughts of the small group of men who hurried back mid-night all in the Paris apartment of Philippe Chatrier, the future ITF president, in 1969. Chatrier's guests were his great friend Kramer, 1947 Wimbledon champion and promoter extraordinaire, and Donald Dell, who was in the process



Nastase in bad old days of clowning and temper that nearly brought the Masters to its knees

of forming the game's first high-powered management company. Although Lamar Hunt was already ready to launch his World Championship Tennis circuit with its Dallas final, Kramer was determined that the Masters should provide the showcase finale to a world-wide series of tournaments linked by a points system. "The bonus pool system is the only way to ensure that the top players have an incentive to support the legitimate Grand Prix circuit rather than go off and play exhibitions," Kramer told his colleagues.

The Grand Prix tour became legitimate, but the Masters and its participants struggled to get out of the kindergarten. After Stan Smith won that first title in Tokyo the event became the toy of Ilie Nastase, one of the game's most talented and ill-disciplined stars.

The round robin format was ideal for Nastase because it enabled him to get rid of all his excesses, even to the point of losing a match or being disqualified without being eliminated. Courting disaster at every turn, the Romanian drove officials and opponents to distraction, but still managed to become the Master four times out of five.

In Paris in 1972, Cliff Ritchie held two points for a 5-0 lead in the deciding set against Nastase before losing 8-6. In Boston two years later Nastase refused to shake hands with Tom Gorman after losing his opening match 6-4, 6-1 and still went on to win. Then most memorably his antics inspired Arthur Ashe's famous walk-off in Stockholm in 1975. Nastase was disqualified from that match, but still managed to win the title with a dazzling display of artistry against a bewildered Bjorn Borg in the final.

By this time Masters sponsorship had moved from a soda pop company through insurance to makers of toothpaste, but still had not learned how to clean its teeth. More controversy centred around huge video screens—oo which Kirk Douglas predicted Wojtek Fibak's ultimate downfall against Manuel Orantes in the middle of their match—in Houston in 1976. But the following year the event finally settled into a permanent home at Madison Square Garden.

Suddenly tennis was big time and a record crowd of over 18,000 caused traffic jams on Eighth Avenue as they flocked to see Connors beat Guillermo Vilas on a Thursday night in 1978. But controversies over players dumping matches they no longer needed to win or the round robin and law suits over yet another change of sponsor continued to give Kramer's child a naughty boy image.

Now with Nabisco sponsoring the entire Grand Prix circuit under the auspices of the Men's International Professional Tennis Council and Scott, street smart in an elegant sort of way, taking charge of the Masters itself, the event seems on the verge of a more mature future. Nonetheless, next Monday the 1986 Master could still be a teenager. Becker should setze Lendl's title, would become the youngest winner since McEnroe, aged 19, won in 1979.

# Becker and Graf aim to share room at the top

Bonn (Reuters)—Steffi Graf said yesterday she was convinced both she and her West German compatriot, the Wimbledon champion Boris Becker, would be No 1 in the world at the same time. But Miss Graf, aged 17, added she was sure Becker would get there first.

Becker, who was 19 last month, has won Wimbledon for the last two years and is ranked second behind Ivan Lendl, of Czechoslovakia. Miss Graf is

third in the women's rankings behind Martina Navratilova and Chris Lloyd, of the United States. In an open letter to Becker in yesterday's *Bild* newspaper Miss Graf wrote: "Many tennis fans in Germany dream that we will both become No 1 in the world at the same time. That would be fabulous. I don't just dream about it. I am firmly convinced of it. You will certainly do it before I do. Then you will dominate the tennis world as

who is seeded second to Lendl in the Masters tournament starting today has beaten Lendl in three of their last four matches. Becker has won seven tournaments this year, six on the ATP tour. Lendl has won eight titles, including the French Open and US Open. "Now I have the chance (to get No 1). I think it would be stupid to say 'I am No 2,'" Becker said. "You don't always have the chance, you know!"



RACING

Well-schooled Plaid should make fine start to new career

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)

Doubles for trainers Tim Forster and Peter Walwyn and jockeys Luke Harvey and Dermot Browne look the order of the day at Worcester this afternoon.

Harvey, Richard Dunwoody's capable young replacement as Forster's second jockey this season, has already ridden Celtic Slave to victory twice this autumn. The first was achieved at Chesham, the second at Worcester. Now I envisage them making a triumphant return to the same Midlands track and winning the Long Haul Handicap Chase.

While conceding that both the ground and the distance will suit that out-and-out stayer, Knock Hill, who showed signs of returning to form at Haydock last time out when he finished fourth behind Blackhawk Star, I still prefer Celtic Slave now that she is so clearly on a crest, having recently beaten yesterday's Hereford winner, Mayanador.

On travelling companion Suez, Harvey will face an infinitely harder task in the Stretton Leisure Handicap Hurdle. However, I still think that it will be worth following them because Suez excelled at Windsor first time out considering how long he had been off course.

The Processor, who beat him three lengths at Windsor, had looked desperately unlucky not to win his previous race at Ascot where his rider was unseated at the last because of a broken iron. Open The Box, who finished third, had won his previous race and has run well to be placed at Wincanton since.

While Auntie Dot, Bold Illusion, Cruden Bay, How Now and Whither Goest Thoo should also go well, they may all find Suez too much of a handful with so little to carry.

Walwyn and Browne are doubling on Framlington Court and Plaid winning the two divisions of the Rushock Novices' Hurdle. In each in-

stance, Martin Pipe, the successful Somerset trainer, will be fielding a formidable opponent but I still prefer the Seven Barrows runners. A half-brother to the useful Fort Rupert, Framlington Court (12.30) ran well enough in his first race over hurdles at Newbury recently when he was runner-up to Donmarc, beaten only 2 1/2 lengths, to suggest that the first division could be his for the taking in spite of the presence of Pipe's runner Splendid Magnolia, not to mention Tim's Crusade and the one-time Derby hope, Sir Percy, who changed hands for as much as 40,000 guineas at Newmarket in the autumn.

Basically Splendid Magnolia is not much better than a plater. So I shall be disappointed if he can manage to give 7lb to Framlington Court even though he has run up a seemingly impressive sequence of wins.

Plaid (1.30) may lack that little bit of experience that his travelling companion guides him at Newbury but he is nonetheless expected to make a successful start to his jumping career by winning the second division.

Besides being placed in both the Gerry Feilden Stakes at Newmarket and the Dee Stakes at Chester in the spring, Plaid also won the Somerset Stakes over 1 1/4 miles at Bath. From that it can be deduced that he was a horse of some ability on the flat.

Harness to that record a reported relish for jumping hurdles and he looks a decent bet to appreciate this change of life and beat Pipe's runner, Mareth Lide, who ran much too freely for his own good at Haydock two weeks ago when he was beaten five lengths by Arrow Express.

At Hexham, I rather like the look of Secret Walk in the Priestlands Handicap Hurdle, even though he will be carrying considerably more weight than when he won it last year. His recent seventh behind Comeragh King augured well.



Derrick Goddard and Lady Moon bid each other a fond farewell before the mare came under the hammer at yesterday's Newmarket December sales (Photograph: Hugh Routledge)

Joel's classic jewel leads the way as a breeding empire winds down

By Michael Seely

Fairy Footsteps, the 1,000 Guineas winner of 1981, described by the auctioneer, former Tattersalls' chairman, Kenneth Watt, as the "jewel in Jim Joel's crown of broodmares," was sold for 720,000 guineas at yesterday's December Sales.

It was a sign of the times that an eight-year-old classic winner should have failed to break the British record of 820,000 guineas established by Danette three years ago and the 1,075,641 guineas European record for Turkish Treasure in Ireland the following season.

Nevertheless there was still an expectant hush when Fairy Footsteps, a rich, dark bay with a blaze and three white socks, was led into the ring. It was indeed the end of an era, the disposal of the majority of the breeding empire of the 92-year-old Mr Joel, who had looked so healthy and spry when welcoming home Midnight Count after that spectacular victory at Sandown last Saturday.

The bidding opened at 500,000 guineas and there were some spirited exchanges before the hammer fell to a final bid from Higo Lascelles, of the British Bloodstock Agency, James Wigan was the bidder.

Fairy Footsteps will now be sent to the Heronwood Farm in Virginia.

Lascelles refused to disclose the name of the owner of the Stud, but said that it was run on a commercial basis and that there were a couple of horses in training with Gny Harwood. "The Temeosa foal that the mare is carrying will be offered for auction at the Highflyer Sales in 1989," he said. "Fairy Footsteps herself will be mated with either Nareyev or Lyphard."

Kenneth Watt emerged from retirement as a sign of respect to Mr Joel and sold not only Fairy Footsteps, but also her father, Glass Slipper, the best foal offered. Aged 17 and out in full, the mother of another classic winner besides Fairy Footsteps is Light Cavalry, was sold to the BBA (Ireland) for 250,000 guineas. Her destination is thought to be the Coolmore Stud.

The second highest price from the Childwick Bury Stud was the 700,000 guineas paid by Hobbie de Burgh for Magic Slipper, a three-year-old filly out of training from Henry Cecil's stable. The daughter of Habitat and Glass Slipper was bought for the Derrinstown Stud which is the property of Hamdan Al Maktoum.

The third highest priced mare from the contingent, Lady Moon, by Mill Reef out of Moonlight Night, is believed to be in foal to Kris and she

was also purchased by the Maktoum family. She was knocked down to a bid from Anthony Stroud, Sheikh Mohammed's racing manager.

The 20 lots offered by Mr Joel were sold for an aggregate of 3,937,200 guineas. This represents an average of 196,860 guineas. The other highlight of the afternoon was the sale of 18 mares offered by the agency of the Swettenham Stud. These are owned in partnership by Stavros Niarchos, Robert Sangster, Vincent O'Brien, John Magnier and Nancy Schwarz and were sold because Niarchos wished to dispose of his interest in the stock. "Stavros owned 25 per cent across the board," said Sangster. "The rest of us have varying interests in different mares."

Eighteen lots were sold for an aggregate of 2,439,000 guineas, which was an average of 135,500 guineas. The highest price was the 380,000 guineas paid for Cala Parade, an unraced two-year-old filly by Alydar out of Galleto. She was purchased by Peter Wragg for an unknown client.

Earlier in the afternoon the BBA and the National Stud had staged a parade of stallions. These included Damister, Peteski, Final Straw and Roustillon.

WORCESTER

Table with columns for Selections, By Mandarin, and race details. Races include Framlington Court, 1.00 Atalabo, 1.30 FLAID (nap), 2.00 Doubleaugan, 2.30 Suez, 3.00 Celtic Slave, 3.30 Saint Acton.

Guide to our in-line racecard

103 (12) 0-0-52 TIMESFORM (CO, BF) (Mrs J Ryley) 8 Hal 9-10-0... B West (4) 88 7-2

Table with columns for Race, Horses, Odds, and Trainers/Jockeys. Races include 12.30 RUSHOCK NOVICE HURDLE, 1.00 Atalabo, 1.30 FLAID (nap).

1.0 KEMPSEY CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP CHASE (21,573:2m) (4 runners) 1 244073- ATATASH (S Small) J D Roberts 10-12-0... H Peem 89 94-5

1.30 RUSHOCK NOVICE HURDLE (Div II: 3-Y-O: £721: 2m) (20 runners) 2 ARABIAN BLUES (T Marshall) M Usher 10-10-0... R Strongs 88 91-1

2.0 EROSTIN GROUP GREAT BRITAIN V AUSTRALIA HANDICAP CHASE (Rid 4: £1,332: 2m 4f) (8 runners) 1 00070-0 CHOCOCOPPER (CD) (Mrs M Price) B Preece 7-11-10... H Gyles (Aim) 12-1

2.30 STRETTON LEISURE HANDICAP HURDLE (21,581: 2m) (24 runners) 1 00070-0 DALRYMPLE (R Sims) A Moore 8-12-1... G Moore 88 92-1

3.0 LONG HAUL HANDICAP CHASE (23,038: 3m 5f) (6 runners) 2 419-04 KNOCK HILL (BF) (P Thompson) J Webber 10-11-7... G Henneghy 89 94-4

3.30 ORCHARD NOVICE HANDICAP HURDLE (2993:2m 4f) (16 runners) 2 22223- SARTY ACTON (Mrs E Wellesley) O Belling 5-10-0... G Bradley 90 91-6

FORM KNOCK HILL (10-10) stayed on inside the final 1/2 mile to beat Celtic Slave (11-0) on a narrow lead after beating Mayanador (10-9) at here (2m, £1800, apt, Nov 19, 10m). FITZGERBERT (10-10) won on a narrow lead after beating Mayanador (10-9) at here (2m, £1800, apt, Nov 19, 10m). FITZGERBERT (10-10) won on a narrow lead after beating Mayanador (10-9) at here (2m, £1800, apt, Nov 19, 10m).

HEXHAM

Selections

By Mandarin

- 1.25 Quay Man, 1.13 Bountys Crown, 1.45 Tartan Torchlight, 2.15 Of That ilk, 2.45 Mr Spot, 3.15 Secret Walk.

Michael Seely's selection: 3.15 Night Guest.

Going: good (back straight good to soft)

12.45 PRIESTLANDS HANDICAP CHASE (21,190: 2m) (7 runners)

Table with columns for Race, Horses, Odds, and Trainers/Jockeys. Races include 12.45 PRIESTLANDS HANDICAP CHASE, 1.15 EASTGATE NOVICE HURDLE, 1.30 RUSHOCK NOVICE HURDLE.

1.15 EASTGATE NOVICE HURDLE (Amateurs: £548: 2m 4f) (13 runners)

Table with columns for Race, Horses, Odds, and Trainers/Jockeys. Races include 1.15 EASTGATE NOVICE HURDLE, 1.45 RACING POST TOP OF THE NORTH-COUNTY CHASE, 2.15 BATTLE HILL CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE.

1.45 RACING POST TOP OF THE NORTH-COUNTY CHASE (Qualifier: £1,211: 2m) (16 runners)

Table with columns for Race, Horses, Odds, and Trainers/Jockeys. Races include 1.45 RACING POST TOP OF THE NORTH-COUNTY CHASE, 2.15 BATTLE HILL CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE, 2.45 HENCOTES HANDICAP CHASE.

2.15 BATTLE HILL CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (558: 3m) (10 runners)

Table with columns for Race, Horses, Odds, and Trainers/Jockeys. Races include 2.15 BATTLE HILL CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE, 2.45 HENCOTES HANDICAP CHASE, 3.15 PRIESTLANDS HANDICAP HURDLE.

2.45 HENCOTES HANDICAP CHASE (22,085: 3m) (9 runners)

Table with columns for Race, Horses, Odds, and Trainers/Jockeys. Races include 2.45 HENCOTES HANDICAP CHASE, 3.15 PRIESTLANDS HANDICAP HURDLE, 4.11 SECRET WALK.

3.15 PRIESTLANDS HANDICAP HURDLE (951: 2m) (16 runners)

Table with columns for Race, Horses, Odds, and Trainers/Jockeys. Races include 3.15 PRIESTLANDS HANDICAP HURDLE, 4.11 SECRET WALK, 4.24 MOUNT RIDE.

Course Specialists

Table with columns for Trainers, Runners, Per Cent, Jockeys, Wins, Per Cent. Lists names like J Wilson, P Richards, J Over, P Monthy.

Windsor criticized in racecourse review

Royal Windsor is anything but ideal according to a survey just published in the 1987 Directory of the Turf. Eighteen racing journalists were asked their opinions on Britain's racecourses and Windsor was condemned as the worst in the country.

The course came bottom in six of the 11 categories with facilities in the Members' and Tattersalls enclosures heavily criticized, as were the viewing positions, car parking areas, bars and general cleanliness.

However, Windsor's managing director, Jack Knight, was not downhearted by the verdict, rather considering it the price to be paid for the course's success in attracting huge crowds to its immensely popular summer evening races.

Constraints of space tend to pack the crowds together, reasons Knight, which accentuate the problems. Smaller crowds would mean fewer difficulties, but it is one solution he will not be pursuing.

Goodwood came bottom in the seated accommodation category, a severe criticism of its relatively new stand.

Ascot came out best with Sandown, voted the Racecourse of the Year in the Racecourse Club poll, and York just behind. Leopardstown, Phoenix Park and the Curragh were the most popular Irish tracks.

Stewards anger Gifford

Josh Gifford saddled Musical Mystery to win the first division of the Greenwicks Novices' Hurdle at Fontwell Park yesterday but was so angry mood after the stewards had held an inquiry into the horse's performance compared with his previous run.

Musical Mystery had been a disappointing favourite when reappearing at Wincanton in mid-November but Gifford, highly indignant at being sent for, said: "Surely they can expect improvement on a horse's first run of the season."

Gifford gave Musical Mystery only a couple of runs last year and added: "I wanted to keep him a maiden. He jumped like a buck today and if Fourth Tudor had not been in the race he

Dark Raven to extend his record

By Our Irish Racing Correspondent

Dark Raven, second favourite at 6-4 for the Champed Hurdle, retained over jumps in the Newbridge Hurdle at Naas this afternoon. Last season he proved himself an outstanding juvenile, putting together an unbeaten record of four wins, topped by fourth-grade victory over Rarefy in the Glenlivet Hurdle at Liverpool.

His trainer, Dermot Weld, believes that he is overrated by the English handicapper and that his Irish counterpart had a more accurate opinion of his true ability. That view will be tested this afternoon as Dark Raven principal rival, Bonalua, actually meets him on 3lb better terms than he would in an Irish handicap.

Bonalua will the final running of the Sweeps Handicap Hurdle at Leopardstown in January but it would be a shock if Dark Raven lost his debut today as he has been nicely tuned up with two recent races on the flat.

In the latest issue of the Irish Racing Annual, published in Dublin yesterday, Edward O'Grady nominated Go For It as his National Hunt horse to follow. In his words: "She has the potential to make a high-class staying hurdler." If that is her future, then Go For It should be well suited by the two miles and three furlongs of the Kilkullen Mares Maiden Hurdle.

Another jumper with a big reputation is Knockcell Castle, trained by Paddy Prendergast. A winner on the flat and over hurdles, he makes his debut today in the Kildare Novices' Chase.

Fontwell results

Going: good to soft. 1.02 (2m 2 1/2 f) 1. TIVAN (M Perrett, 11-12-0) 2. Dream Merchant (M Kinross, 11-12-0) 3. Tenebris (P Hobbs, 20-1) 4. ALSO RAN: 5. Mount Tumbledown (M Perrett, 11-12-0) 6. Fairy Mary (S, 20-1) 7. Fairy Mary (S, 20-1) 8. Fairy Mary (S, 20-1) 9. Fairy Mary (S, 20-1) 10. Fairy Mary (S, 20-1) 11. Fairy Mary (S, 20-1) 12. Fairy Mary (S, 20-1) 13. Fairy Mary (S, 20-1) 14. Fairy Mary (S, 20-1) 15. Fairy Mary (S, 20-1) 16. Fairy Mary (S, 20-1) 17. Fairy Mary (S, 20-1) 18. Fairy Mary (S, 20-1) 19. Fairy Mary (S, 20-1) 20. Fairy Mary (S, 20-1) 21. Fairy Mary (S, 20-1) 22. Fairy Mary (S, 20-1) 23. Fairy Mary (S, 20-1) 24. Fairy Mary (S, 20-1) 25. Fairy Mary (S, 20-1) 26. Fairy Mary (S, 20-1) 27. Fairy Mary (S, 20-1) 28. Fairy Mary (S, 20-1) 29. Fairy Mary (S, 20-1) 30. Fairy Mary (S, 20-1) 31. Fairy Mary (S, 20-1) 32. Fairy Mary (S, 20-1) 33. Fairy Mary (S, 20-1) 34. Fairy Mary (S, 20-1) 35. Fairy Mary (S, 20-1) 36. Fairy Mary (S, 20-1) 37. Fairy Mary (S, 20-1) 38. 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YACHTING

Crusader chalks up a win thanks to the drawing-board boys

White Crusader showed that she had benefited substantially from her lay-off modifications. Her win over Eagle was never in doubt and the final margin of over five minutes could have been greater but for some very conservative sailing from skipper Harold Cudmore and helmsman Chris Law.

From Keith Wheatley, Fremantle that the modifications to her keel and the newly flared bow - a la French Kiss - have made her a much faster boat. Against Eagle, herself the

Table with columns: CHALLENGER RESULTS, DEFENDER RESULTS, TODAY'S RACES, and DEFENDER RESULTS. Lists names of yachts and their respective owners and crews.

It was a day of in-house racing for the two Kookaburras. As always it was a close contest, Kookaburra II leading by 15 seconds at the first mark but never increasing her margin thereafter.

Each windward leg gave the British about another minute over Eagle. The margins were 1min 19sec at the first windward mark, 2min 23sec at the second and 4min 19sec at the third.

'Wizard' works his magic

Buddy Melges, the grandfather skipper from America's mid-west, provided the Americans Cup regatta's biggest upset to date when he beat America II by almost a minute in the first day of the third and final Round Robin (Keith Wheatley writes from Fremantle).

reciprocated a new keel, Harry Cudmore demonstrated his boat to be much improved from her last configuration.

At the bottom mark it was Kookaburra II, at the first windward mark it was Kookaburra II, at the second windward mark it was Kookaburra II, at the third windward mark it was Kookaburra II.

respect for his sailing abilities. In yachting circles he is universally known as 'the Wizard of America II, just 100 seconds behind.

The Chicago 12-metre underwent major surgery to her keel during the lay-off period. Melges described it as: "new tips under the wings of the keel. On the first day the boat felt a tick, anyone but still felt tender."

As the wind freshened, Heart of America seemed to gain a little pace. Melges said a week ago that their big gamble for a place in the semi-finals was a big gamble. On the first day the boat felt a tick, anyone but still felt tender.

SKIING

Girardelli defies handicap

Val d'Isere (AFP) - Marc Girardelli the World Cup holder, who dislocated his left shoulder in a fall on Saturday's special slalom, the first European event to the 1986-87 season, was fastest to practice here yesterday for Friday's downhill.

ATHLETICS

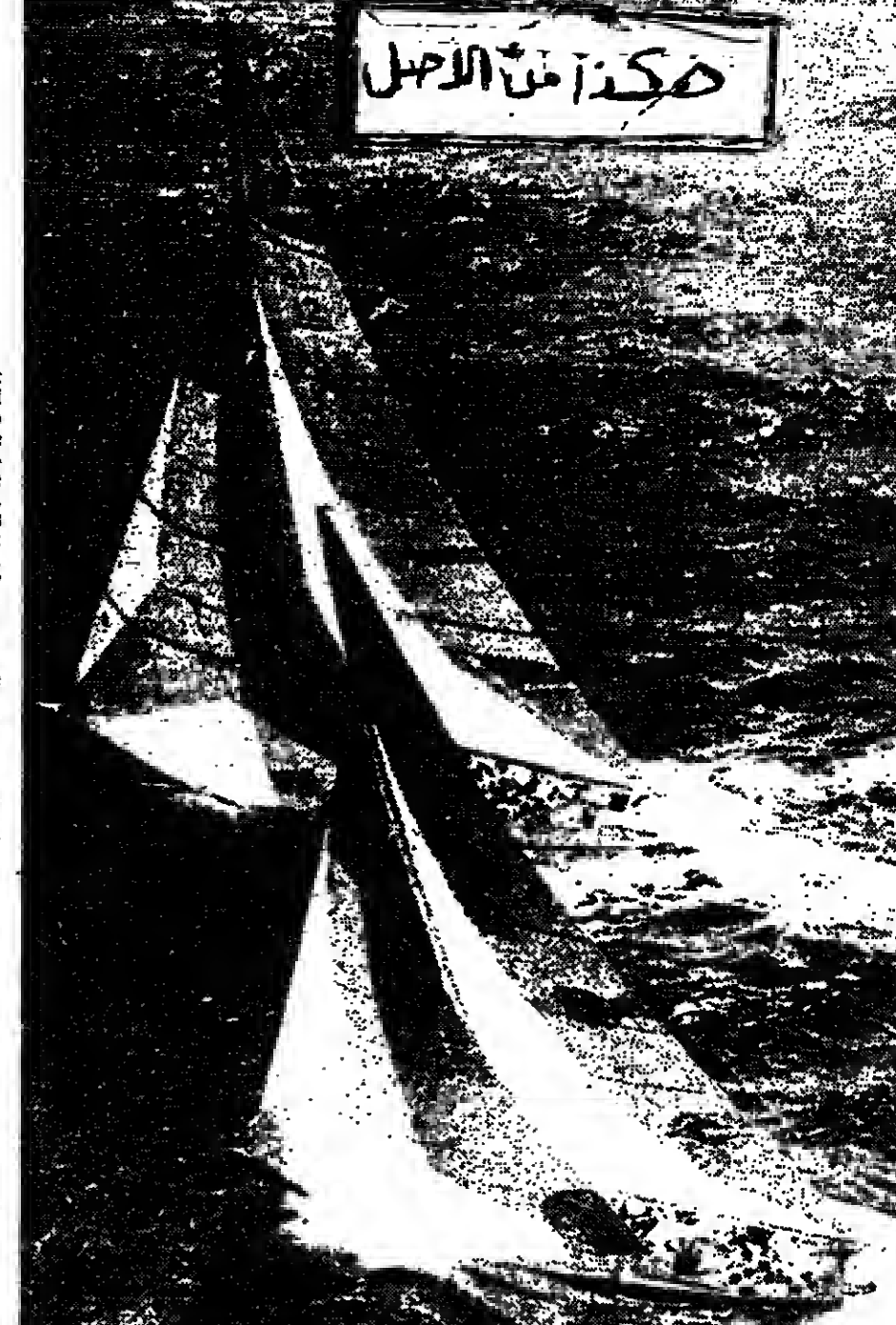
A £75,250 helping hand for leagues

There are signs of a new mood at the Amateur Athletic Association - something approaching voluntary revelation of facts and figures, probably not unconnected with Saturday's annual meeting show-down, which many clubs demanding more details of commercial transactions.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Beware of the 'Joeys'!

Cumbria's slaughter by the Young Kangaroos, the Australian high schools touring squad, has sent shudders through Britain's schoolboy and youth teams as the British Amateur Rugby League Association announce their 18-strong squad for two international tests with Eilat on December 12 and Elland Road on December 20.



Toeing the line. White Crusader and Eagle jostle for position before the start of yesterday's race.

RUGBY UNION

Compensation: three crucial meetings to clear the fog

Three meetings, tomorrow and on Friday, may clarify the muddy waters that have been swirling around the home unions in their discussions of the International Rugby Football Board's proposals of compensation for players on tour.

Fitzgerald rattles his sword

The team that tore the record books apart with a 60-0 win over Romania last month have, not surprisingly, been nominated for the senior role in the trial at Lansdowne Road on December 20. But the choice of Claran Fitzgerald to lead the Possibles is a surprise.

Newport take no action

Newport decided not to make an official complaint to the Rugby Football Union over reported remarks made by Roger Quinton, the RFU international panel referee, who handled their game against London Welsh last month.

TENNIS

Trumped by the court card of a king-size talent

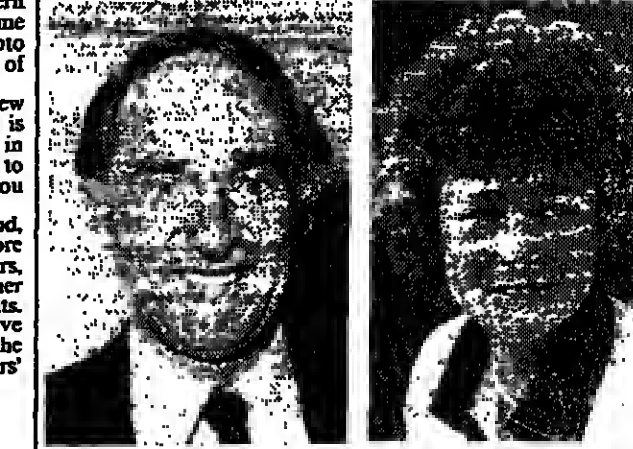
Sports writers of The Times present their selection from the roaring books of the year. Today: Rex Bellamy on the best of the tennis books. But for his charm and infectious enthusiasm, John Barrett would be insufferable. He belongs in that rare breed of omnivorous, practical visionaries whose minds make disturbed anathema seem like studies in still life.

A year in the life of an insomniac

Joy of joys, there has been another such book - equally lavish in its production and, in a different way, equally wild in its range. Like Barrett, Roy McKelvie was a distinguished amateur sportsman who then became a hard-oozed professional communications.

The man of the elastic minute

One would put nothing past him. When Kipling wrote that stuff about filling the unforgetting minute with 60 seconds' worth of distance run, he did not know about Barrett, to whom a minute is an elastic quantity with no known braking point.



Barrett: counter-punch Shriver: disarming candour

BADMINTON

White No 1 for Scots

Billy Gilliland and Dan Travers, the "omnium" champions, the Scottish doubles champions, are in Scotland's team to play England at Hereford tomorrow, while Alex White, who reached the Commonwealth men's singles semi-finals, will play at No 1 for the Scots, teaming up with Iain Pringle in the second day's doubles.

CRICKET

Ejaz prompts Pakistan to their first win

Shaajah (Reuters) - Pakistan recovered from a middle-order cove to claim their first win in the four-nations Champions Trophy tournament yesterday, beating Sri Lanka by four wickets with one run to spare.

HOCKEY

Indoor season comes first for England

Neither England nor Great Britain will take part in the inaugural Indira Gandhi invitation tournament to Delhi from January 11 to 20. The Hockey Association's international tournaments committee recommended the invitation in London that England should decline the invitation.







TELEVISION AND RADIO

Edited by Peter Dear and Peter Davalle

Britten, with and without distortion

When Tony Palmer's film about Benjamin Britten, A Time There Was... (Channel 4, 9.00pm), was first shown six years ago, it was a tribute only to Britten who had died four years earlier. Now, it is also a tribute to Peter Pears, very much alive when Palmer made his film, and an important contributor to it. Since then, Pears, too, has gone, and the film's concluding sequences devoted to Death in Venice - the opera that spoke so eloquently of so many elements in the lives of the composer and the singer - which were sad enough when Britten alone had departed, are now made ineffably moving with the death of his closest friend and collaborator. This is an affectionate film, sensitively controlled, and immensely detailed. The most accurate comparison that can be drawn between A Time

CHOICE

There Was... and some of Britten's other films about musical personalities (Puccini and Wagner among them) is similar to the one that can be made between Ken Russell's poetic film about Elgar and the maniacal gyrations of his movie about Tchaikovsky. By coincidence, Radio 4 today repeats the edition of With Great Pleasure (11.00am) in which Peter Pears, not long before his death, made a selection of some of his favourite poetry and prose. I applaud Channel 4 for providing a coda to Palmer's film about Benjamin Britten - a performance by the Lindsey Quartet of Britten's String Quartet No 3 (10.30pm), composed shortly before Britten died. This is a noble interpretation of the work. The miracle is that the

nobility manages to survive despite some reflecting panels behind the players that so distort them that they sometimes look like something out of Francis Bacon. The neon squiggles don't help much, either. Some judicious trimming of superfluous detail would not have come amiss in this week's series in Desmond Wilcox's film The Visit (BBC1, 9.35pm). The tale it tells is a good one, though: the reunion of twins in their sixties, neither of whom suspected that she had a sister and neither of whom knew that the mother who abandoned them to the not-too-remember care of foster families, was still alive. The film is essentially a detective story, using the word in the non-Dennis Potter sense. For some reason, not sufficiently explained, it then goes on, on a tangent, linking the "detective" (a

social service official) with research being carried out in the United States into the similarities and differences between identical twins. Radio choice: The BBC's recently-appointed Chairman, Duke Hussey, is guest of the week on Woman's Hour (Radio 4, 2.00pm). There is a second chance (Radio 4, 9.00pm) to hear Jessie Kesson's play Three Score and Ten, Sir, a most perceptive study of the sad devastation that death and environmental changes can cause in the lives of the elderly. The drama is part of Scottish Drama Week which, in the main, continues to make good listening. Musical highlights include Dmitri Atenev playing Prokofiev's Piano Concerto No 2, with the BBC SO (Radio 3, 7.30pm).

Peter Davalle



The unsuspecting twins: Lilian (left) and Betty. The Visit (BBC1, 9.35pm)

**BBC1**  
6.00 **CeeFax AM.** News headlines followed by The Flintstones. (r) 6.55  
6.30 **Weather.** Breakfast Time with Frank Bough, Sally Magnusson and Jeremy Paxman. National and international news at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30; regional news and travel at 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; and weather at 7.25, 7.55 and 8.25.  
8.40 **Watchdog.** Hot Seat - a chance to question people whose decisions affect your life. 8.55 Regional news and weather. 9.00 News update.  
9.05 **Day to Day.** Robert Kilroy-Silk, his guests and a studio audience, discuss tranquillizer safety. 9.45 **Advice Show.** Margo MacDonald with supplementary benefit advice. 10.00 **Neighbours.** (r)  
10.20 **The Wombles.** (r) 10.25 Philip Schofield with children's television programme news, and birthday greetings. 10.30 **Play School.** 10.50 **Henry's Cat.** (r)  
10.55 **Five to Eleven.** Fulton Mackay with a chat for the day. 11.00 **Day Out with Angela Rippon on the Nadder, the Ebbie, and Cranborne Chase.** (r) 11.30 **Open Air.** Viewers say what they think about television programmes.  
12.25 **Domesday Detectives.** Quiz game for teams about Britain. 12.55 Regional news and weather.  
1.00 **One O'Clock News** with Martin Lewis. Weather. 1.25 **Neighbours.** 1.50 **Little Miss Helpful.** 2.00 **Film: Not Just Another Affair** (1982) starring Victoria Principal and Gil Gerard. A made-for-television tale of a wealthy lady-killer lawyer who believes he can conquer his courtroom adversary with his irresistible charm. But the lady, a marine biologist, is not interested in the opposite sex and lives only for her work. Directed by Steven Searn. 3.30 **Misterjaw Superstark.**

**BBC2**  
5.35 **Cricket: Second Test.** Live coverage of the last afternoon's session. Ends at 7.40  
8.00 **CeeFax.**  
8.15 **Daytime on Two:** how the Scots cope with their climate. 9.35 **CeeFax.** 10.00 For the young. 10.15 **Science:** hearing how the funny people solve problems by measurement. 11.00 **Words and pictures.** 11.17 **Living on a Croft.**  
11.40 **Do boys or girls get the best jobs in life?** 12.02 **Maths:** statistics. 12.25 **Working in a family business.** 12.48 **Spanish language course.** 1.10 **The stars of English law.** 1.38 **Country for a partner.** 2.00 **Thinkabout.** 2.15 **Finland's winter festivals.**  
2.35 **Sports Afternoon** includes a profile of downhill skier Martin Ball. 3.55 **Regional News.**  
4.00 **Pamela Armstrong.** This afternoon's guests include Lord Fort. 4.35 **Global Report: Valley of Hope.** A report on the revolutionary health plan of a village in the La Esperanza valley. (r) 5.00 **Domesday Detectives.** A repeat of the programme shown on BBC1 at 12.25.  
5.30 **Cover to Cover** presented by Jill Neville. Auterson Waugh discusses a new biography of his father, Jeremy Cherfas reviews Richard Mabey's biography of Gilbert White; and Nigerian novelist Buchi Emecheta talks about her autobiography.  
6.00 **Film: A Man Alone** (1955) starring Ray Milland and Mary Murphy. A gunman in a postman's uniform is forced to kill a woman in self-defence. While he is on the run he investigates who was responsible for the hit-up and the killing. Directed by Otto Preminger. 6.30 **Cricket: Second Test.** Highlights of the final day's play in Perth.  
6.40 **Paul Simon, A Whistle Teat Extra** in which the celebrated American singer talks about the background to the making of his latest album, Still Crazy After All These Years. 8.00 **Out of Court** includes an investigation into the ruling on whether or not a woman is legally responsible for the fetus in her womb; and police policy towards battered wives.  
8.00 **Mr S.T. Hawkeye** is in despair as bureaucracy thwarts his attempts to acquire a new pair of boots to replace the ones that let in water. (r) 9.25 **Breeding Up.** Part three and with the Malbers' divorce looking inevitable, social worker Clara has to decide which of the parents can offer their son the best home.  
10.15 **The Trouble With Sex.** This final programme of the series examines sex education.  
10.45 **A Party Political Broadcast** on behalf of the Labour Party.  
10.50 **Newsnight.** 11.35 **Weather.**

**ITV/LONDON**  
6.15 **TV-AM: Good Morning Britain,** presented by Anne Diamond and Geoff Meade. News with David Foster at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00. Financial news at 8.35; sport at 8.40 and 7.40; exercises at 6.55 and 8.17; cartoon at 7.25; pop music at 7.55; and the results of the Funny people competition at 8.35. The After Nine guests include Farih Fawcett Major.  
9.25 **Thames news headlines.** 9.30 **Schools:** maths - the number '5'. 8.42 **Children's experiences** of being ignored. 9.58 **Andrew Nicol's story** of the Mummy's Tomb. 11.00 **History - the 1958 Berlin Olympics.** 11.22 **The versatility** of the human voice. 11.35 **Shopping in Paris.**  
12.00 **The Giddy Game Show.** (r) 12.10 **Our Backyard.** (r) 12.30 **Sun-Off.** Ten Brooks-Taylor continues his tour of interesting places made more accessible by the opening of the M25.  
1.00 **News at One** with Leonard Parkin includes the third part of the series on AIDS, today examining the best ways of putting over the facts about the disease to the public. 1.30 **Thames news.**  
1.30 **A Country Practice.** Medical drama serial set in an Australian rural community. 2.30 **Farmhouse Kitchen.** Grace Mullen and Joan Tyers prepare microwave meals.  
3.00 **Talk the High Road.** A postman's tale of floating in the Loch 3.25 **Thames news headlines.** 3.30 **Sons and Daughters.**  
4.00 **Thames the Tank Engine and Friends.** Narrated by Ripce S. 4.10 **The Cuckoo's Nest.** S.W.A.L.L.O.W. David Bellamy unravels clues set by pupils from Merden Bridge Middle School. 4.45 **Held Tight** with The Housemaids and the Red T. 12.15 **That's Hollywood.** Clips from science fiction and fantasy films.  
12.40 **Night Thoughts.**

**CHANNEL 4**  
2.15 **Their Lordships' House.** (r) 2.30 **Film: I Love Melvin** (1953) starring Donald O'Connor and Debbie Reynolds. Musical comedy about a photographer's assistant who persuades a chorus girl that he can get her picture on the cover of Look magazine. Directed by Don Weis.  
4.00 **Mavis on 4.** In this week's edition of Predicaments, Mavis talks to a group of people whose lives have been severely affected by the problems of retirement.  
4.30 **Countdown.** Yesterday's winner is challenged by Michael Stephenson from near Harrogate.  
5.00 **Silents, Please: The Black Pirate.** A condensed version of the swashbuckling tale of a nobleman who becomes a feared pirate while avenging his father's death. Made in 1926, starring Douglas Fairbank Sr., and directed by Albert Powell.  
5.30 **Hogan's Heroes.** Vintage American comedy series about a resourceful group of Allied prisoners-of-war who make life hell for their captors.  
6.00 **The Abbott and Costello Show.** Lou and Bud come to the assistance of an old lady who has been thrown out of her home but their good intentions only make matters worse for the widow.  
6.30 **In Time of War: Shadow of the Bomber.** Clips from Soldiers with Wings, a 1939 film about the theory of strategic bombing; and the 1944-made The Unknown Battle which examined the wartime practice of bombing. (Oracle)  
7.00 **Channel 4 News** with Peter Sissons includes an assessment of the successes and failures of industry year.  
7.50 **Comment.** This week's political slot is filled by Dennis Davies, the Shadow Secretary of State for Defence. Weather.  
8.00 **Looking into Paintings.** Robert Cumming, director of Christie's Fine Arts Company examines Constable's The Hay Wain. (r) (Oracle)  
8.30 **The New Enlightenment.** Part four of Professor Kenneth Minogue's series explores the thesis that it is only individuals who can create real wealth.  
9.00 **A Time There Was...** On the eve of the tenth anniversary of his death, a profile of Benjamin Britten. (see Choice)  
10.30 **The Lindsey Quartet** perform Britten's String Quartet No 3 Opus 45, which was dedicated to the late writer and broadcaster, Hans Keller. Aerial Views. A successful Canadian pianist begins to question the ethics of his work and in consequence drives his wife from their retreat back to Montreal. Starring Kenneth Uhlmann.  
11.25 **Their Lordships' House.** The day's debates in the House of Lords. Presented by Glyn Methuen. Ends at 12.45.

**VARIATIONS**  
**BBC1** WALES 5.35-6.00 Wales Today. 6.35-7.00 News. 11.55-12.00 News. 12.05-12.15 About Any. 11.00 **Dorset.** 5.35-7.00 Reporting Scotland. NORTHERN IRELAND 5.35-5.40 Today's News. 5.45-6.00 Inside News. 6.55-7.00 News. 11.55-12.00 News and weather. ENGLAND 5.35-7.00 Regional news programmes.  
**BBC2** WALES 6.35am-6.55 News. 6.55-8.00 Interval. NORTHERN IRELAND 11.40am-12.02pm News.  
**ANGLIA** As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Gardens of All. 1.30-2.00 News. 6.25-6.30 About Any. 12.15pm Art Blakey at Ronnie Scott's 12.45 Joy in My Soul. Closedown.  
**BORDER** As London except: 1.20-1.30 News. 3.00 Lady Hugh Russell at Home. 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors. 5.00-6.35 Lookout. 7.00-7.15 News. 7.15-7.30 News. 12.15pm News. 12.30pm-1.00 Something to Treasure. 1.20-1.30 News. 1.30-1.45 Gardening Time. 1.45-2.00 News. 2.00-2.15 News. 2.15-2.30 News. 2.30-2.45 News. 2.45-3.00 News. 3.00-3.15 News. 3.15-3.30 News. 3.30-3.45 News. 3.45-4.00 News. 4.00-4.15 News. 4.15-4.30 News. 4.30-4.45 News. 4.45-5.00 News. 5.00-5.15 News. 5.15-5.30 News. 5.30-5.45 News. 5.45-6.00 News. 6.00-6.15 News. 6.15-6.30 News. 6.30-6.45 News. 6.45-7.00 News. 7.00-7.15 News. 7.15-7.30 News. 7.30-7.45 News. 7.45-8.00 News. 8.00-8.15 News. 8.15-8.30 News. 8.30-8.45 News. 8.45-9.00 News. 9.00-9.15 News. 9.15-9.30 News. 9.30-9.45 News. 9.45-10.00 News. 10.00-10.15 News. 10.15-10.30 News. 10.30-10.45 News. 10.45-11.00 News. 11.00-11.15 News. 11.15-11.30 News. 11.30-11.45 News. 11.45-12.00 News. 12.00-12.15 News. 12.15-12.30 News. 12.30-12.45 News. 12.45-1.00 News. 1.00-1.15 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